MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 FEBRUARY 1981

Iran

Interior Minister on Policy--Interior Minister Mohammad Mahdavi-Kani told personnel at Tabriz revolutionary guards headquarters that "unfortunately" everybody interprets Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's policy "differently." In his remarks, reported by Tehran radio, he noted that even Tudeh Party members consider themselves close to Khomeyni's policy, and added that there are many more such "incorrect interpretations." He said the ayatollah's policy should not be forced on others, but, nevertheless, he called for an orderly "code of conduct" that all should follow.

Beheshti Interview--Admitting that "complete security" does not yet exist in Iran, Ayatollah Mohammad Hoseyn Beheshti told Tehran radio that discussions and lectures must be conducted in peace and order, and he added that all those who disrupt meetings, including "the very people who complain about the existence of club wielders" but who are themselves committing disruptive acts, should be criticized. Referring to a recent newspaper article which used a document found in the U.S. Embassy to criticize him, Beheshti said that the newspaper in question and "certain other publications" try to cause tension by use of lies, slander and rumormongering but that the people recognize such "hypocrisy."

Disturbance in Bandar 'Abbas--A number of people were arrested in Bandar 'Abbas, Tehran radio reported, after several people were injured in disturbances at a "phony debate." Bandar 'Abbas citizens later staged a march during which they condemned "plots" fostered by "counterrevolutionary" factions.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Palme on War--INA reported that before he left Baghdad UN special envoy Olof Palme described his talks with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz as constructive and said the need for peace is more urgent than ever. According to Tehran radio, when Palme arrived in Tehran he was asked by a correspondent why he is continuing his mediation efforts in view of Iran's refusal to negotiate as long as Iraqi troops remain on Iranian soil. Palme replied that he is "well aware" of the Iranian stand, which was the "basic subject" of his discussions with Iraqi officials. Asked about Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Javad Tondguyan, who was captured by Iraq several months ago, Palme said Iraqi authorities told him that Tongduyan is being treated as a POW in accordance with the Geneva convention.

Good Offices Committee--SPA reported that Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti revealed that during his talks with Hoseyn Haqqani, the leader of an Iranian delegation currently visiting Saudi Arabia, he confirmed that his country is ready to receive the Islamic good offices committee, which is expected to arrive in Iran on 28 February.

Military Situation--During a series of "spectacular" guerrilla operations Iranian forces "destroyed" two Iraqi battalions in the vicinity of Mehran, according to Tehran radio. It also said "considerable progress" has been made in the Gilan-e Gharb area and that fighting continues in the Abadan, Khuninshahr, Ilam and Susangerd regions, with Iranian forces firing into Iraqi territory near Panjwin. INA acknowledged fighting near Panjwin but claimed that the Iranian troops have been forced back.

Egypt

In President Anwar as-Sadat's meeting with visiting FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, MENA reported, the latter expressed his government's approval of As-Sadat's proposal of mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinians. At a press conference after the meeting, reported textually by MENA, As-Sadat said that he had suggested the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile because "some elements" of the PLO are complaining about the pressure exerted on them by Syria. Later, in a speech to the National Democratic Party Club, broadcast by Cairo radio, As-Sadat added that he had been told "semiofficially" that the Palestinians want to have a provisional government because Syria has "sacrificed" the Palestinian issue for the sake of the Ba'th Party's interests.

PLO

In an interview with the Netherlands newspaper DE VOLKSKRANT, PLO leader Salah Khalaf called for a European initiative on the Middle East "totally independent" of the U.S.-inspired Camp David approach, saying that Europe should play a greater role. He dismissed the chances of success for the Israeli Labor Party proposal for a "Jordanian option," noting that "as long as we exist" King Husayn will never dare accept a Jordanian option. The Labor Party program, he said, propagates the same ideas as the Likud, but with "finer words."

Syria

Voice of Lebanon radio reported that it received calls from persons claiming to be members of the "Arab Revolution Vanguards" organization who said they captured two Soviet experts working in Syria and executed one of them. The callers requested the release of detainees in Syria, threatening to use torture and assassinations if this were not done. Claiming that their group is a branch of Syria's Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the callers asserted that they have secret headquarters in all Syrian governorates.

YAR

The Yemeni news agency SABA', according to GNA, has denied allegations that two Americans recently arrested in San'a' on espionage charges have been tortured.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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YASIR 'ARAFAT RECEIVES IRANIAN DELEGATION

JN181835 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] At noon today Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received the Iranian delegation under Dr Jallaluddin Farsi, Iranian Majlis deputy. The delegation also includes Dr (Abdol Karim Farrush) and Dr Shari'at Madari, members of the cultural revolution committee.

The meeting was attended by Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym], Abu al-Walid [Cold Sa'd Sayil] and Hani al-Hasan, members of the Fatah Central Committee; and Brig Gen Abu al-Mu'Tasim. The latest developments in the region were discussed. The discussion aslso touched on the situation in southern Lebanon in light of the escalating and repeated Zionist attacks against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Hosts Dinner

JN200657 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in ARabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, last night hosted a dinner banquet in honor of the Iranian guest delegation led by Jallaluddin Farsi. Brother Abu 'Ammar acquainted the Iranian delegation with the latest developments, particularly the military situation in southern Lebanon in light of the serious Israeli military escalation, the repeated Israeli shelling and the huge military concentrations.

'ARAFAT SPEAKS AT BEIRUT RALLY HONORING MARTYR

JN200848 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has lauded the cohesion of struggle between the Lebanese nationalist movement and Palestinian resistance saying: The Lebanese-Palestinian gun, which represents the greatest revolutionary unity of the modern age, cananot be disgraced and fears no one. Indeed, the fighter stationed in Al-Jurmuq and Qal'at ash-Shaqif cannot be driven back or defeated.

He added that the nationalist movement and Lebanese villages welcomed us and gave us their leader, Kamal Junblatt, who was the Palestinian revolution's martyr before he was Lebanon's martyr.

Having pointed out that the joint forces are confronting the Israeli enemy on their own, the brother commander in chief discussed the hostile plots being fabricated against the Palestinian revolution and Lebanon and the new U.S.-Israeli-isolationist plot hatched following the failure of previous schemes. He said: They used southern Lebanon as a field for experimenting on their aggressive arms. Indeed, they experimented on arms never used before anywhere in the world. They also have planned for a big operation. However, we are ready to confront all operations. Just as we have always challenged and responded to all threats and schemes and were sincere in what we said, so shall we remain loyal and sincere to our revolution.

He called on the Islamic and Arab nation to fight on the side of the joint forces, just as the heroes of these forces are fighting in Qal'at ash-Shaqif, Jisr al-Qasimiyah and al-Mahmudiyah.

Brother Abu 'Ammar delivered this speech at a rally, held by [word indistinct] under his patronage in Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir hall at Beirut Arab university, on the occasion of the 40th day anniversary of the martyr Ahmad Husayn al-Salimi.

The speech rally was attended by Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Hani al-Hasan, members of the Fatah Central Committee; Brother Ahmad al-Khatib, commander of the Arab Lebanese army; the members of the Iranian delegation currently visiting Lebanon; a large gathering of cadres of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist movement; and sons of the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

ABU MAYZAR ON PNC MEETING, NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

JN191547 Doha QNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Doha, 19 Feb (QNA)--'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman, has announced that the coming meeting of the Palestine National Council [PNC] will discuss the formation of a new PLO Executive Committee that will reflect the common concern over having proportional representation for the Palestinian resistance groups, thus bolstering the Palestinian leadership's ability to be up to its responsibilities.

In an interview with the Qatari newspaper AR-RAYAH published today, he said that the formula for national unity will be the main issue to be discussed by the PNC in order to expand the role that can be played by the PLO on the national, Arab and international levels.

On the results of the foreign ministers conference, he noted the general positive results achieved by the conference in the interest of the Palestinian issue, pointing out that the most prominent of these results were the denunciation of U.S. policy, which is hostile to the PLO and the legitimate Palestinian rights; the affirmation that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative; and the declaration of the invalidness of UN Security Council Resolution 242 as a foundation for a just solution to the Middle East problem. Other prominent results of the conference were the conference's denunciation of the settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories, the affirmation that relations will continue to be severed with Israel and the call on the United Nations not to accept Israeli membership.

On the European role in the Middle East crisis, Abu Mayzar said that the PLO considers the European arena to be among those arenas of great importance to it since the PLO's purpose is to deepen the European public's awareness of the justness of the Palestinian issue and to expand the base of recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights.

The Palestinian official affirmed that the PLO refuses to use the American language to discuss Afghanistan, pointing out that the PLO supports Afghanistan's independence, sovereignty, nonalignment and membership in the Islamic group.

He added that the PLO is also against foreign interference in Afghanistan's affairs and that it would be natural for the Soviet forces to withdraw from Afghanistan once the causes of the crisis are settled by peaceful and political means.

On Jordanian-Palestinian relations, Abu Mayzar said that these relations are moving within the framework of three stages: namely, ordinary diplomatic relations, which are embodied in bolstering the PLO office in Jordan; the political relations stage; and the stage of joint cooperation with regard to bolstering the steadfastness of the Palestinian people inside the occupied territory, which was decided upon by Arab and Islamic summit resolutions.

In conclusion, he affirmed that the Palestinian revolution is concerned with working so that the objective circumstances enabling it to be up to the level of its national and pan-Arab responsibilities, would be present.

PLO OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH USSR

LD171244 Kuwait KUNA in English 1045 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Beirut, 17 Feb (KUNA)--A ranking Palestinian official disclosed Tuesday that a "coordination agreement already exists" between Moscow and the Palestine Liberation Organizations.

Brig. Muhammad ash-Sha'ir, the PLO's representative in Moscow, made the announcement in a lecture at the invitation of Palestinian writers and journalists. The PLO news agency WAFA distributed text of the lecture to the press Tuesday.

"The coordination has moved from a written agreement to practice," he announced. "When a problem arises, a high delegation is sent by the PLO to Moscow for discussion and for a common stand on the matter."

He said PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will be visiting Moscow "in the near future."

The coordination agreement, Sha'ir said, was reached during 'Arafat's visit to Moscow last year.

He said the PLO "enjoys a special diplomatic privilege in Moscow. As head of the PLO office there, I am free to move and travel anywhere within the Soviet Union, while other foreign diplomats are restricted to an area of 110 square kilometers."

"Hundreds of Palestinian officers at the level of brigade commanders have graduated from Soviet military academies," Sha'ir said, adding that two thousand Palestinian students currently study in the Soviet Union.

KHALAF VIEWS JORDANIAN OPTION, EUROPEAN INITIATIVE

LD191057 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 12 Feb 81 p 4

[Jan Keulen interview in Beirut with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf--identified in the interview by his nom de guerre, Abu Iyad--"Europe must play greater role"--date of interview not given.]

[Text] Beirut--At the end of this month Dutch Foreign Minister van der Klaauw will visit Jordan, Iraq and Syria in his capacity as EEC Council of Ministers chairman in order to put a number of questions concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict to politicians in those countries. At a later stage it will be the turn of a further 11 countries in the Middle East to cast light on a possible "European initiative." What is the PLO's opinion of the European Community's present steps?

Abu Iyad is the PLO's "number 2" after Yasir 'Arafat. He is in charge of the "security of the Palestinian revolution," and may be regarded as a kind of Palestinian minister of the interior. Abu Iyad appreciates the Europeans' "growing understanding" of the Palestinian cause, but warns that an initiative on the part of the Europeans "must be unconnected with the Camp David accords."

Abu Iyad: There is no detailed project or plan on the part of the Europeans. This does not mean that no European moves are currently being made. There seems to be a list of questions; a list of questions which are still under discussion by the Europeans. These questions have not yet crystallized to the extent of forming an initiative. There are of course reasons for this. They waited for the new U.S. administration. I do not believe that there will be a European intitiative which is totally unconnected with U.S. policy. We believe that an attempt is being made to find common ground for a European move and the Camp David accords. What we advocate, of course, is a totally independent European initiative which has nothing to do with the U.S. approach. But that is our desire; we do not know whether it can be realized. That does not rest with us.

[Question] The European Community is exploring the possibility of an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem in order to create in one way or another the possibility of a Palestinian "entity." How do you view this?

[Answer] That is correct. This is one of the European questions which we have discussed previously. But what we are interested in and what we emphasize is the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

[Question] But how can the Palestinian people exercise the right to self-determination?

[Answer] In the first place, the principle of our right to self-determination must be recognized. Only afterward can the question be asked how it can be put into practice. The Palestinian people, both inside and outside the occupied territories, have always claimed the right to self-determination. It is now a matter of the world's also recognizing that right.

Fight On

[Question] Do you believe that the Reagan administration will ever recognize the Palestinians' right to self-determination?

[Answer] Look, we are a small people. But honestly, whether Reagan does or does not allow us that right, we are determined to continue to struggle for it with weapons and with all other means until the United States recognizes the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Our people have been struggling for self-determination since 1917. If this generation cannot exercise the right to self-determination and live in its own country and state, the coming generations will continue with the struggle and will certainly achieve their aim. In the United Nations the right to our own Palestinian state has been recognized by 117 countries. How long will the U.S. administration continue to disregard this fact? For all kinds of reasons, the Arab oil-producing countries are not succeeding at present in imposing their will on the United States. But this does not mean that the day will not come when these countries compel the United States to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

[Question] You regard Israel as an enemy; the same applies to the United States. What exactly is your stance with respect to the European Community?

[Answer] As I have already said, the European stance is better than that of the Americans. But is this exactly what we expect from the Europeans? No, not at all. We believe that the Europeans should play a greater role. We also believe that the Europeans have different interests from the United States in the Middle East.

For instance, take the continent of Africa; there you can clearly see the incompatibility of European and U.S. interests. The United States helped the Africans to throw the French, the British and other Europeans out of Africa. Why? In order to take the European's place in Africa itself. I do not wish to talk about Chad now, but I am convinced that in the future we will discover a U.S. role in Chad.

Guarantees

[Question] Minister van der Klaauw will probably also ask the Arab politicians questions about security guarantees for the State of Israel.

[Answer] Is it not a joke that Israel should demand security guarantees? We want a Palestinian state, but what are the guarantees that Israel will not invade that Palestinian state or resort to occupation again? I believe that Israel is in fact blackmailing the Europeans with the demand for security guarantees. Israel is exploiting the European's feelings of guilt toward the Jews. I am in charge of the security of the Palestinian revolution, and I am daily confronted with the brutal manner in which the Israelis assail our people. We are often asked: Why do you not recognize Israel? I would like a journalist or politician to come to us some day with Israel's recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination in his pocket. Then they can ask us to recognize Israel.

[Question] What should the security guarantees be for a possible Palestinian state--for instance, on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip?

[Answer] I do not wish to talk too much about the details. We have not yet reached that point. It is a matter of the principle. But you can imagine that they can be discussed within the UN framework. [answer ends]

Abu Iyad adopts a negative stance with respect to the Jordanian option--a solution which is advocated in particular by the Israeli Labor Party and which, briefly put, amounts to the setting up of a Jordanian-Palestinian federation. "Look, the Camp David initiative is deadlocked. Other plans and conspiracies against the Palestinian people are also over and done with. The same will happen to the Jordanian option. Deadlock will always occur if the reality of the Palestinian people is not taken into account. As long as we exist, King Husayn will never even dare to accept a Jordanian option. If you wish to talk about King Husayn's secret ambitions, that is a different matter. But he is clever enough to reject the Jordanian option now. [answer ends]

Abu Iyad also sees a positive aspect in the Jordanian option proposed by the Israeli Labor Party. "If the Labor Party is talking about the Jordanian option, then you must fully understand that they are putting forward that idea because they are in an awkward situation: There is a Palestinian reality, a Palestinian people who are becoming increasingly recognized and whom they cannot disregard. I also believe that if the Americans and the Israelis continue with their policy of intransigence, this will ultimately work to the own disadvantage and Israel's future will be endangered. These are not just my words but also those of Nahum Goldmann, former chairman of the Jewish world conference, in an interview with the weeking JEUNE AFRIQUE recently. Moreover, Abba Eban has expressed the same opinion."

[Question] Palestinian leaders very sharply oppose the Israeli Labor Party's policy and maintain that a Peres cabinet would be worse than a Begin cabinet. Why?

[Answer] All the crimes against the Palestinian people in recent history were in fact committed by the Labor Party. The Likud has only been in power for the last 4 years. If As-Sadat had not been there, I believe that the Begin government would have achieved no success at all. The danger from the Labor Party is that the Likud kills us with a sharp knife. But the Labor Party kills us with a blunt knife, and that is even more painful.

To hear the Labor Party politicians speak you would believe that Israel is the most peaceful country in the world and even take pity on the Israelis. It all sounds much more acceptable. But if we read the Labor Party program carefully, we reach the conclusion that the same ideas as those of the Likud are being propagated, only with finer words. If a Palestinian demonstration is held in the occupied territories, the Likud government arrests the demonstrators; but the Labor Party wishes to arrest the demonstrators before they have even had the chance to go on to the streets.

KUWAIT

PRIME MINISTER'S COMMENT ON GULF MANEUVERS DENIED

GF191551 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 18 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] A responsible Kuwaiti source announced yesterday that the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, was not referring to any fraternal Arab Gulf country in his press conference the day before yesterday. The source rejected the BBC's allegations made the day before yesterday that Shaykh Sa'ad had indirectly criticized the Sultanate of Oman's decision to hold joint military maneuvers with the United States later this month.

The source said that during his press conference, Shaykh Sa'ad expressed optimism over the establishment of a Gulf Cooperation Council and said: We in Kuwait believe the Gulf region is important and vital because of its natural resources, strategic positions and waterways. Therefore, we are following with concern the activities of the superpowers and their efforts to establish a presence in the region. We cannot grant any foreigner an opportunity to intervene directly or indirectly.

OMAN

UK'S DOUGLAS HURD MEETS WITH OFFICIAL 19 FEB

JN191549 Doha QNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Muscat, 19 Feb (QNA)--Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, met here today with Douglas Hurd, British minister of state for the foreign and commonwealth office, who is currently visiting Muscat.

They discussed bilateral relations and means of developing them and the situation in the region. They also discussed the preparations for the April visit to Oman by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Mr Hurd arrived in Muscat yesterday on a visit to Oman as part of his tour of a number of states in the region to prepare for a tour by the British prime minister.

PDRY

ORDER DEFINES STATUS, FUNCTIONS OF NEWS AGENCY

LD172026 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Feb 81 EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today issued Council of Ministers order Number 7/81 dealing with the organization of the ADEN NEWS AGENCY.

The articles of the order provide for considering the agency as a legally-constituted body enjoying financial and administrative independence. Its work will be supervised by the chairman of the State Committee for Information. Its headquarters will be in the Governorate of Aden and it is permitted to have branches within and outside the country.

The articles of the order stipulate its information task as spreading nationalist and progressive consciousness among the masses in accordance with the general policies of the YSP and the state. It will also distribute news, information, reports, and research papers issued by the YSP and the state.

It will provide information and news about the achievements and activities of the toiling masses and their mass and social organizations in the economic, political, social and cultural fields. It will gather, organize and transmit news and information to the various news media in the republic.

The order stipulates that the ADEN NEWS AGENCY will gather, organize and distribute news and reports on the experience of the socialist countries, the world labor movement and the Arab liberation movement. It will acquaint the mass media abroad with the achievements of the toiling masses in the republic in the various fields of social development. It will prepare political, economic, social and cultural publications, reports and research papers.

The articles of the order provide that the capital of ADEN NEWS AGENCY will consist of the agency's fixed and circulating assets. The remainder of the articles stipulate that the chairman of the State Committee for Information will decide on the organizational regulations for the agency; that any previous stipulation contradicting the order is null and void; that the order is operative from the date of issue; and that it shall be published in the official gazette.

PFLO RADIO COMMENTS ON TOWER VISIT TO OMAN

LD182105 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Brothers: Yesterday the agent Qabus, met the chairman of the U.S. Senate's Armed Services Committee, John Tower, in the camp in which the agent Qabus, his followers and sumbols of his regime are residing. It is no secret to anybody that the camp and its environs are surrounded by strict guards so that no countryman is permitted to approach it. Nobody enters it except the elements which the agent Qabus wants to meet. The agent Qabus sets up such camps outside the towns which he visits.

The agent Qabus discussed with John Tower in the Qabus camp military issues and arrangements which have been going on for some time and which culminated in the joint maneuvers between the American military forces, the forces of the agent regime in Muscat and the Egyptian forces which are in Omani territory to protect Qabus and his agent regime. These maneuvers provide more than one proof that the agent Qabus openly asked the Western capitalist states to increase their military presence in the Gulf area so that his majesty may reassure himself of the continuation of his rule against collapse under the blows of the Omani masses.

The visit of John Tower to the sultanate was the culmination of all the agreements and arrangements being made by the United States in the Sultanate of Oman. It is also to study the positions on which agreement has been reached for the use of the American military forces, and the extent of their effectiveness in foiling the dangers which the imperialist and reactionary circles in the area expect to arise during the coming period and whose origin will be internal rather than external, as the hostile forces try to claim, in order to pave the way for acceptance of their military presence.

The peoples and masses throughout the Gulf area know well that their will is the target of the enemies because the breaking of this will constitutes the main precondition for the imperialists being able to carry out their plans and plots and reassuring themselves of the safety of their oil interests in the area. But the will of peoples is stronger. This is what has been proved by the experience of history.

PFLO CHAIRMAN DISCUSSES FOREIGN PRESENCE IN GULF

LD161900 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 14 Feb 81 EA

["Text" of interview with 'Abd al-'ziz al-Qadi, chairman of the PFLO Central Executive Committee, conducted by the PDRY daily 14 OCTOBER--published on 13 February]

[Text] Replying to the first question connected with the process of self-construction, Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Qadi said: The task of self-construction has many aspects, or let me say it is a comprehensive task covering all the front's aspects: political, ideological, organizational and military. However, some aspects are given greater attention than others. This matter is connected with our previous struggle experience and the gaps it exposed. It is also connected with the nature of the future tasks of the revolution in its present stage.

In the second half of 1976, we drew up a program for internal contacts to deal with all aspects of developing our own conditions [shurut dhatiyyah] for the revolution and its vanguard, the front. This was done by relying on the sound lessons derived from past experience and what it contained in terms of achievements, gaps and pitfalls. Despite the political circumstances resulting from the temporary setback to the armed struggle experience, we have succeeded in the last 4 years, under the transitional program, in covering quite a long distance toward the implementation of the defined tasks of the program.

I can say openly here that we have succeeded in this period in (?training) a very large number of revolutionary cadres in various fields of specialization such as the organizational, the political, the military, the ideological and others. We have achieved a higher level of capabilities in these aspects if measured against the situation in the past. We have achieved palpable success in building a well-founded and cohesive organizational unity for the front based on clear and mature ideological and political unity.

Parallel with this we have also achieved expansion in our organizational conditions and in our relations with and our political influence on our people in all their various popular sectors and groups. But more important than all this is the fact that we have been able, on the basis of the program, and in spite of the acute embarrassment of the temporary setback, to preserve the existence of the revolution and the spirit of rebelliousness and sacrifice with which we started in 1956 and to preserve, even under the setback, our guns and the torch of the armed struggle.

The armed operations of 1979 and 1980 did not have the same momentum and level as those at the beginning of the seventies.

But, especially under the new circumstances, the new stage of the revolution must be considered as possessing very deep and important implications.

The forthcoming PFLO general national congress scheduled to be held during this year, 1981, will consider what has been achieved, during the past, of the transitional program connected with the strengthening and development of our own conditions. The congress will decide the nature of the period to follow.

[Question] You have raised the banner of the broad-based national front. What has been the response of other forces to this?

[Answer] The construction of militant national unity comprising all the groups, classes and nationalist forces of our people must be considered a central question and a very basic link in the struggle connected with our people's freedom and independence.

In the past we have committed mistakes of division and limitations of view toward this question. But we uphold the motto of building broad-based national unity on the basis of ideological and theoretical views very much different from the situation in the past, much more comprehensive and with a greater sense of responsibility. We have learned a great deal from our mistakes and deeply studied our experience and the experience of others.

The question of getting rid of foreign domination and bases, the achievement of the full national independence of our country, the struggle for our people's freedom and their democratic demands and the struggle to give Oman its natural position in the Arab family and within the framework of the anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist and anti-Camp David Arab struggle--all these questions, or rather essential demands, concern, in fact, all our Omani people and all Yemeni nationalists, without exception, and notwithstanding the political and ideological differences with regard to any other questions.

The critical stage through which our homeland is passing, especially under conditions of occupation, bases and foreign hegemony requires, of necessity, the building of the most broad-based class and social alliance possible to ensure the triumph of our people's objectives and their just demands.

The policies pursued by the puppet Muscat regime based on complete prostration before the imperialist powers, and especially the United States, permitting it to establish military bases in our country and giving it facilities everywhere, as well as the regime's flagrant backing of Camp David and As-Sadat--these policies, which are unlimited in their treachery and their continuous disregard of the simplest sovereign rights, greatly contribute to uniting our people's ranks and the strengthening of their national unity in the struggle to achieve complete independence, freedom and democracy.

These flagrant and imbecile policies of the Muscat regime, inasmuch as they necessitate the building of the most broadly based national unity possible coupled with the channeling of the Omani people's energies, also offer us great assistance in achieving our great goal and make our task of building national and popular unity easier and less complicated.

The achievement of national unity for our people in the national struggle for the building of the broad-based national front will materialize by seeking it simultaneously from two directions: the direction of contacts and dialogue with nationalist groups and organizations, as well as nationalist personalities, and the straight path toward all groups and sectors of our people so as to awaken them and [words indistinct]. As a matter of practice we move in these two directions at the same time. Contacts and dialogues are continuing with nationalist organizations and personalities to reach a common formula for national action. We are now within the framework of this stage. Contacts and dialogues are continuing. We are fully confident that we shall attain tangible results.

The forthcoming national general congress of the front will consider this vital question and the ground so far covered in connection with it. It is expected that the congress will come out with comprehensive ideas on the subject.

Regarding the situation in Oman, Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Qadi said: Muscat's military alliance with the United States is too obvious to require much thought or examination. It is a prop and support for the whole Anglo-American imperialist system.

Even today, British imperialism enjoys political influence and authority in our country and has the last word, not Qabus, (?the puppet). What do we expect from a country ruled by British advisers and commanders?

Relations between the Muscat regime and the United States have been developing very quickly for the last 2 years or so, more precisely since the signing of the Camp David accords, the fall of the shah and the victory of the Iranian revolution. During this period, the Muscat regime, in the words of Qabus himself, was the first to draw public attention to the need for a U.S. military presence in Oman and the Gulf and the need to permit the United States to establish military bases in this region. This same regime took upon itself the duty of thinking about the establishment of a military alliance in the Gulf region, with the United States, Britain and West Germany as members, under the pretext of protecting the Strait of Hormuz. But the scheme was rejected by almost all the states in the region. The nature of the formula on this scheme as presented by the Muscat regime shows it to have been a U.S. formula.

During the same period and until now the Muscat regime has not ceased revealing through Qabus himself, or his foreign minister or his minister of information, Muscat's full support for the Camp David accords and As-Sadat. It is clear that the engineer of the Camp David accords and its protector is the United States.

During the last 2 years and under orders from U.S. and British circles, the Muscat regime has furthered its relations at all levels with As-Sadat's regime, namely on the political, economic, cultural and military levels. In this way, Qabus has demonstrated his complete distain for all the Arab summit decisions. Throughout the whole of the past period, the Muscat regime has hosted a number of U.S. military delegations and concluded three arms deals with the United States.

It has also participated with the United States in military exercise held in the Gulf of Oman and the approaches to it. Everyone is aware of these facts or has heard about them.

U.S. troops numbering about 1,500 participated in the search campaigns mounted by the troops of the agent regime in the eastern zone of Dhofar region at the beginning of this year. One of the objectives of the campaigns was to test as well as train the U.S. troops to operate in the geographical conditions of the region. This rapid development of relations with the United States culminated in the signing of a military pact with the United States on 4 June, last year, under the name of an agreement for economic and military cooperation. Under the agreement the United States was given the right to set up three military bases in Oman, one base on Al-Masirah island and two bases in the province of Musandam, which directly overlooks the Strait of Hormuz.

The United States was also given the right to facilities at and the use of Omani ports and airports when necessary, including the airports of As-Sib, Bayt Al Falaj, the naval base in Muscat, Qabus Harbour, Raysut Harbor, Salalah airport and Tamrayt base. In return for this the United States undertook to pay $100 million per annum to the regime. The United States will also negotiate further sales of arms and provide loans as well as spend about $500 million to improve the military airports and naval bases belonging to the Muscat regime. The United States has also pledged to protect the Muscat regime and defend it against any internal or external threats.

What can we call all this? Is it not complete prostration before U.S. imperialism which links it and the other parties to the Camp David agreement in a direct military alliance? Information now before us says that Musandam Province of Oman has been completely transferred, in terms of civil and military administration, to the U.S. administration. The United States is also digging a canal in this sensitive area. Its length will be about 5 kilometers and it will link the Gulf with the Gulf of Oman, at the same time serving as an additional sea route for military purposes even under normal conditions.

At present in U.S. bases, in Musandam Province alone, there are about 10,000 U.S. Marines of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force.

For the above reasons and on the basis of other facts we can say that the nature of the military alliance between the Muscat regime and U.S. imperialism is no longer concealed from anyone who is actually interested in the security and safety of the region and its peoples.

[Question] How do you assess your relations with the USSR and the other socialist countries?

[Answer] Our relations with the USSR and the other states of the socialist community are quite good. We are concerned with these relations and shall seek to strengthen and develop them in the interest of the cause of our people and the causes of our Arab nation as well as the interest of the struggle of the peoples of the world and the triumph of the causes of liberation, democracy, social progress and peace.

Our past experience has shown us that the socialist states, led by the USSR, are genuine friends and allies who can be relied upon in the struggle of our Arab nation against imperialism and Zionism and the maintenance of national independence and social progress. Our Omani people are part of this Arab nation and their struggle is part of its struggle. The socialist countries support our Omani people's struggle to get rid of foreign bases and hegemony so as to achieve freedom and independence. We value this stand and appreciate it very highly.

On our side we entertain no doubts as to the intentions of the USSR or other socialist countries toward the Arab Gulf region. Rumors circulating in this regard are no more than part of the war waged by imperialist and Zionist circles against the Arab nation and their just causes and against the gains already achieved by the Arab revolutionary movement. The USSR and the rest of the socialist community countries have never attempted to interfere in our internal affairs or impose stands or policies contrary to our political line or patriotic and national traditions. Our relations are founded on the basis of full and mutual respect.

YAR

ETHIOPIAN NAVY OFFICERS REPORTEDLY ASK FOR ASYLUM

GF191019 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] AL-QABAS has learned that 24 senior officers of the Ethiopian Navy in the port of (Musawa) arrived aboard a large Ethiopian ship 10 days ago and asked for political asylum. The authorities in San'a' promised to study their request.

The Ethiopian Government sent a high-ranking envoy to San'a' a few days ago to reclaim the ship and try to persuade the YAR authorities to hand over the officers.

This incident is one in a series of disturbances within Ethiopian military units, particularly those in Eritrea.

YAR DENIES TORTURING TWO AMERICAN DETAINEES

JN192105 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2050 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] San'a', 19 Feb (GNA)--The Yemeni news agency SABA' has denied U.S. information media reports that the two American citizens who were taken into custody pending investigation by YAR authorities on the charge of espionage were subjected to torture.

The Yemeni news agency said that these rumors are aimed at harming and undermining the YAR's good reputation. It added that the continuation of these lies and the circulation of such rumors will not serve the cordial relations between the two countries.

The two U.S. citizens were arrested in San'a' in the last few days on the charge of spying for the Zionist entity.

DJIBOUTI INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES 18 FEB

JN181745 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Djibouti Interior Minister Idriss Farah Abaneh arrived in San'a' today on a visit of several days to the YAR at the invitation of the brother minister of interior.

Idriss Farah Abaneh expressed his happiness over visiting the YAR. He said that he will take this opportunity to consult with the Interior Ministry officials on coordination and cooperation on security matters between the two fraternal states and to acquaint himself at first hand with the achievements of the security instruments in the YAR.

On arrival at the airport he was received by Lt Col 'Ali ('Ursuf), minister of interior; the Interior Ministry's under secretaries; several security officers; YAR ambassador to Djibouti Dr 'Abd al-Wahad al-Kharbash; and a representative of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department.

19 Feb Talks

JN191434 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Official talks began today at the police officers club between the Yemeni side led by Interior Minister Lt Col 'Ali ('Usruf) and the Djibouti side led by Djibouti Interior Minister Idriss Abaneh.

During the meeting several issues pertaining to the various fields of security and means to develop the relations between the two ministries in security matters were discussed.

The issue of telecommunications and rapidly establishing a temporary line until regional project number one is implemented were also discussed. This project includes telephone and cable connections between both parts of the homeland, Djibouti, Somalia, Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia.

The talks were attended by Brother Ahmad al-Ansi, minister of communications and transport; Lt Col Ghalib (?Al-Jinis), head of the central national security apparatus; several Interior Ministry officials; and members of the Djibouti delegation.

At noon today the Djibouti delegation attended a luncheon banquet given in their honor by the brother interior minister. Several officials were invited.

MATERIALS ON FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S VISIT

'Ali, As-Sadat Meetings

Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1145 GMT on 19 February retransmitted the item published on page D 4 of the 19 February Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT under the subtitle "'Ali, As-Sadat Meetings" and added the following:

"MENA has also learned that an atmosphere of joint understanding prevailed at the discussions, and that views were identical on all the international problems discussed. "The two sides also reviewed the European efforts aimed at a comprehensive settlement for the Middle East problem within the framework of the Venice and Luxembourg statements.

"The discussions touched upon the relations between Egypt and the FRG. The two sides expressed satisfaction over the stage reached in these relations during the past years. They also discussed means to bolster these relations and opening new avenues for cooperation between the two countries and cooperation between Europe and Africa in the various development fields."

'Ali Statement to FRG Press

NC191828 Cairo MENA in English 1800 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA)--Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated that the persistence of the Middle East problem without a solution constitutes a major cause for the Soviet presence in the area.

'Ali added in a statement to the press delegation accompanying West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher that President as-Sadat's speech in Luxembourg as well as his other statements made it clear that Egypt's policy is against all forms of aggression everywhere from hence.

Egypt condemned the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the Libyan intervention in Chad. Egypt also supports the Polish people's right to live without any foreign intervention, he added. He said that Egypt had previously supported African liberation movements and was today defending the independence of Africa and condemning the extension of Soviet influence in the Horn of Africa as well as in other regions of Africa which sought to lay a seige of oil resources in the Gulf and raw materials in Africa.

The foreign minister added that in view of Egypt's conviction that the persistence of the Middle East problem constitutes a major reason for Soviet presence in the region, and in order to realise the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and to give the countries of the region a further opportunity for progress and development, President as-Sadat undertook his visit to Jerusalem and signed the Camp David accords.

The deputy prime minister also affirmed that the object of Camp David was not to reach a partial solution between Egypt and Israel but rather to set a framework for the solution of the Palestinian problem that would guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, and secure Israeli withdrawal from all the territories occupied in 1967. These were the same principles included in Security Council Resolution 242, he added.

Kamal 'Ali also referred to the developments of the autonomy negotiations and affirmed that Israel placed obstacles in their course.

He pointed out that Egypt had presented Israel in Washington with a goodwill memorandum that included twenty-one security measures, among which was to grant the right for political assembly, to release political detainees and the reunion of Palestinian families deported after 1967. However, Israel disregarded these proposals, he said.

The deputy prime minister added that Israel started a series of procedures that contradicted the memorandum of confidence-building measures proposed by Egypt. The situation was further aggravated by the deportation of West Bank mayors and some other public figures, as well as by the Knesset's decision to annex Jerusalem and Israel's building of settlements, which caused the suspension of negotiations several times.

He pointed out to the proposal made by President as-Sadat in this respect on the holding of a tripartite summit that would enable the parties to reach a common interpretation of the Camp David accords.

Joint Press Conference

NC191320 Cairo MENA in English 1220 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat and German Foreign Minister Genscher addressed a joint press conference here today. Following are the questions and answers:

Genscher: I have expressed to President as-Sadat, on behalf of my government, our sincere thanks for the great speech which he gave to the European Parliament in Luxembourg, and I said here that together with our partners in the European community we intend to support all the efforts which contribute to confidence-building among the partners in the Middle East conflict. The principles put forth by the European council--principles also supported and welcomed by President as-Sadat--by the European council both in Venice and in Luxembourg, continue to remain valid as measures which are to contribute to a comprehensive, just and peaceful solution in the Middle East conflict. Steps are important which contribute to confidence-building and among these steps mutual acceptance of the other parties as partners in negotiations is of great importance. We, the Europeans, know that the security of the Middle East region means our security as well.

And likewise the states of the Middle East depend for their security on the security of a free Europe in close cooperation with the United States. So our concepts agree on the possibilities securing peaceful solution for the Middle East and our will and intentions are also in agreement to maintain the independence in the face of any threat, independence also of the Soviet Union. We wish the very best of success to President as-Sadat in his responsible way which he is pursuing and we sincerely assure him of our deepest support.

Question: Mr. Genscher you promised yesterday that you are going to give us your comment about hearing the point of view of President as-Sadat on the question of the provisional government and the reciprocal recognition?

Genscher: I have said a moment ago that we would consider it as a constructive step towards a solution if all the parties concerned recognise each other as parties in the negotiations and I said at another occasion when I met President as-Sadat in Abu Qir--and this still holds true today--that we supported the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people. But we see this right to self-determination of the Palestinian people in this way: That it should be a matter for them to decide who will represent them and one possibility in this is certainly the one put forth by President as-Sadat.

Question: Was the Euro-Arab dialogue a subject of discussion and whether the FRG supports the Egyptian interest in this dialogue.

Genscher: Yes, on both counts.

Question: President as-Sadat, in addition to receiving encouragement from some of the European governments to your idea, have you received any response from other Arab states or from the Palestinians to your new suggestion about the government-in-exile?

President: Well as I have told you before, it is not a new proposal. I have proposed this in 1973 before the Palestinian Council itself.

I think the support should not come from any other side to this except the Palestinians themselves, because it is for them to decide and I quite agree with what my friend Genscher said now that if it could be achieved by the Palestinians or agreed upon, it is an alternative from lots of alternatives through which all of us want the Palestinians to enjoy their entity and self-determination.

Question: You had some idea, some encouragement that your suggesion would receive a positive reaction. Could you tell us what made you make your suggestion at this point?

President: Well, to be frank with you I made this suggestion because the PLO, most of the elements of the PLO, are complaining from the pressures that have been and are still being exerted by Damascus upon them, to the extent that some elements of them described it as sacrificing the Palestinian cause for the Ba'thist and the 'Alawite government in Damascus. So this is the main motive. It is not at all some support that I received secretly from here or there. I am putting this because I know that among the Palestinians themselves there are those who are complaining and I want to make it easy for them because I want the peace process to continue and the comprehensive settlement to take place in the near future.

DPA Report on Press Conference

LD191423 Hamburg DPA in German 1253 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] (DPA)--Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has advocated in Cairo that "all parties involved in the (Middle East) conflict recognize each other as negotiating partners." Genscher commented to this effect to journalists following a 1-hour meeting with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. As-Sadat, who also met the press with Genscher, described this as being in complete harmony with his own views: "I was pleased that Mr Genscher gave his country's approval for my proposal for mutual recognition on the part of Israel and the Palestinians," As-Sadat said.

On the Palestinians' right to self-determination, Genscher said that as far as the Federal Republic is concerned this means "that it is a matter for the Palestinian people to decide by themselves who is to represent their affairs."

According to Genscher, Europe and the Middle East countries depend on each other as far as security is concerned. "As Europeans we know that the security of the Middle East also means the security of Europe and that conversely the Middle Eastern countries depend on the security of an independent and free West Europe which is closely allied with the United States," Genscher stated. "Our ideas thus coincide not only in our will to preserve our independence." Genscher spoke in German, but the interpreter added on his own the words "independence also from the Soviet Union" in the English translation.

19 Feb Departure

NC191238 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1222 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA) FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and the accompanying delegation left Cairo for Rome this afternoon after a 1-day visit to Egypt.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 252

JN191659 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Feb (INA)--The victorious Iraqi forces killed 116 men and Khomeyni guards of the racist Persian enemy in battles that raged on the battlefields last night and today. Communique No 252 issued by the Armed Forces General Command this evening said that our valiant units destroyed four enemy tanks; four vehicles, two loaded with hardware; three guns; and five excavators. The text of the communique is as follows:

Communique No 252 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With ability and high morale, our armed forces continue their activities in the operational sectors. The result of these activities last night and today is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. A force of enemy personnel and charlatan Khomeyni guards tried to approach our units' positions in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin. It was engaged with various weapons and forced to flee, leaving behind 21 dead. Our units also engaged an enemy concentration in the same region, killing 24 and destroying 1 vechicle and 1 excavator.

B. Nine killed and two infantry positions destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.

C. Our units engaged with various weapons a concentration of enemy personnel that was sighted in front of our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb region and forced it to flee, leaving behind 15 dead.

D. Six killed and three tanks, one vehicle, two excavators and one observation post destroyed in the region opposite our units' positions in Sayf Sa'd.

E. Two killed in the Mehran region.

F. One of our combat patrols came across an enemy reconnaissance patrol in the Dezful region and clashed with it with various weapons, forcing it to flee after sustaining the following losses: 16 dead, 1 tank captured and 1 gun and 1 vehicle for reconnaissance detroyed. Our units found a serviceable gun in the same region that had been left behind by the enemy in previous battles.

G. One killed and one excavator and one gun destroyed in the Shush region.

H. Two killed and one observation post destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.

I. Our units engaged enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: 20 dead and 2 vehicles loaded with hardware, 1 excavator and 1 observation post destroyed. One fuel reservoir was burned in the same region.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 116 dead; 4 tanks; 4 vehicles, 2 loaded with hardware; 3 guns; 5 excavators; 3 observation posts; 1 reconnaissance vehicle; 2 infantry positions; and 1 fuel reservoir.

II. Our losses:

A. Personnel: 12 martyrs in all sectors.

B. Equipment: One vehicle, one gun and one mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 February 1981

KING HUSAYN CONFIRMS ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE BADRAN

JN150903 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0805 GMT 15 Feb 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Feb (INA)--Jordan's King Husayn has reitereated his rejection of the idea of Jordan's entering into negotiations that will change the future of the Palestinians. In an interview with the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD here today, King Husayn said that the idea of Jordan's entering into negotiations is an Israeli idea and that it will guarantee for Israel the right to participate in deciding the future of a people and an area over which it has no legal or moral rights. King Husayn reiterated his rejection of the Zionist entity's bid to make Jerusalem its capital. He said: This demand is definitely rejected. Jerusalem must return to Arab sovereignty and all religious rights must be recognized.

King Husayn reiterated his denunciation of the Camp David agreements concluded between the head of the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity. He said: We cannot permit any disruption in Arab relations. As-Sadat has chosen a path which has weakened the Arabs and made Egypt forget its moral duties toward the rest of the Arab family and its participation in the Palestinian cause.

King Husayn reiterated Jordan's stand beside Iraq in its war with Iran. He said: We are one nation and any threat posed to a part of this Arab homeland is a threat to all the Arabs. The king added: Iran's stand on the Arab homeland clearly reveals its desire for expansion at the expense of others. Iran has set the worst example of internecine fighting in the area by fabricating divisions and splits. The king wondered how Iran could use religion to achieve its objectives and results at the expense of the Arabs and Muslims and said that Iran poses a threat.

The Jordanian monarch confirmed reports that several Syrians had been arrested inside Jordan on charges of attempting to assassinate the Jordanian prime minister. He added that the investigation will take its due course and will be made public to the Arab homeland and the Islamic world.

King Husayn stated that he has received a new invitation to visit the Soviet Union. He said that, most probably, he will be able to visit the Soviet Union in late May. The king said that relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union have been good during the past years and that they are based on mutual respect.

AMMAN RADIO REPORTS HUSAYN SUNDAY TIMES INTERVIEW

JN151933 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Feb 81

[Text] In an interview published by the London SUNDAY TIMES today, His Majesty King Husayn said that any solution dictated on the Palestinian people will never lead to just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East area.

His majesty rejected anew the so-called Jordanian option, which was basically proposed by Israel, saying that the principal role in finding a comprehensive settlement belongs to the Palestinian people, along with a guarantee of their rights to determine their own fate and future, the elimination of the Israeli occupation and the return of Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty.

His majesty pointed out that UN Security Council Resolution 242 is inadequate to tackle the causes of the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian people's rights. He stressed the need for a European role, saying that the European countries can play a major positive role in the peace process.

His majesty discussed Syrian-Jordanian relations, pointing out that Jordan had always dealt with Syria and the other Arab countries from a position of brotherhood, coordination and positive action in the service of Arab interest. His majesty expressed his concern over the recent acts by Syria beginning with the deployment of its troops on the Jordanian border and the abduction of the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut.

His majesty said: Perhaps these acts were motivated by the fact that Syria opposes Jordan's support for fraternal Iraq in its just battle to regain its rights. His majesty asserted that Jordan will continue its support for Iraq because any threat to any Arab state is a threat to the entire Arab nation.

PAPERS REPORT, DEFEND DELEGATION'S VISIT TO SYRIA

JORDAN TIMES 18 Feb

JN180808 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Feb 81 p 1

["Unofficial Session in Damascus: Jordanian Delegates Talk to Al-Asad in Damascus"]

[Excerpt] Damascus, Feb. 17 (agencies)--A Jordanian popular delegation met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and top officials today for talks on the deteriorating relations between the two countries following the kidnapping of Jordan's charge d'affaires in Lebanon. Jordan has accused Syria of responsibility for the abduction. The meeting was also attended by the Syrian information minister, Mr. Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, and the interior minister, Mr. Nasir ad-Din Nasir, as well as Mr. Sami al-'Atari, a member of the Ba'th Party Command Council. The Jordanian delegation arrived in Damascus this morning via the border post of Ramtha.

Although the delegation is not on an official visit, the Syrian Government extended full honours usually reserved for senior state visitors. The Jordanians were greeted at the Syrian border checkpoint of Dar'a by Mr. Nasir.

The delegation members are:

Mr. Hamad al-Farhan, a former economy minister and leading political intellectual;
Mr. Jawdat al-Muhaysin, a retired army officer and brother of the kidnapped diplomat,
Mr. Hisham al-Muhaysin;
Mr. Marwan al-Hammud, who has held the cabinet portfolios of agriculture and of municipal and rural affairs;
Mr. Ibrahim Bakr, president of the Jordanian lawyers association and member of the Palestine National Council, and Mr. Sulayman al-Hadidi, a former association president;
Mr. Michel Masannat, president of the Jordanian engineers association, and Mr. Ibrahim Abu 'Ayyash, a former association president;
Mr. Rizq al-Bataynah, a leading lawyer and former member of the National Consultative Council; and
Dr. Yasir 'Amr, Mr. Faris an-Nabulsi. Dr. Salih ar-Rushydat and Mr. Husayn al-Majali.

Before the delegation's departure, Mr. Hamad al-Farhan told AR-RA'Y that he and his colleagues would discuss with President al-Asad the case of the abducted diplomat. No details of the talks were disclosed.

AR-RA'Y 19 Feb

JN191010 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Feb 81 p 1

[Editorial: "A Regime Which Ruminates on Illusions"]

[Text] Our Jordanian family witnessed the trip of popular delegation comprising several of its sons to Damascus 2 days ago to work for the release of Hisham al-Muhaysin and to remind Syrian officials that Arab values condemn the abduction of an Arab person at Arab hands. Needless to say, the noble effort undertaken by the delegation and prompted by humanitarianism was appreciated by our family in the true dimensions of such an effort. This appreciation is by virtue of the organic links which bind the sons of this family to one another to make it regard the abduction of Hisham as an offense against each of its members.

It seems that in the light of the isolation that the Syrian regime is suffering in the internal arena, that regime sought to exploit the task of the Jordanian popular delegation in that arena and to attach different political dimensions to it by portraying its as paying homage to that regime in confronting the Jordanian family.

It is surprising [as published] that the Damascus regime media found no shame in exploiting the genuine nationalist and Arab qualities of the delegation. The nature of such genuine qualities is that the guest should speak of Arab ethics and urge the release of a kidnapped Arab. It is on that basis and within this context that the popular Jordanian delegation spoke during its humane mission there.

Our Jordanian family finds in this political exploitation of that effort a new indication of the bankruptcy of the ruling regime in Damascus in referring in an inhospitable way to the popular delegation and in giving the mistaken impression that the delegation had absolved itself of its commitments. However, this is the habit of the Syrian regime, which distorts facts, ruminates on illusions and pursues mirages. Whatever that regime may say, our citizens' sense of belonging to our country and their pride in our pan-Arab character, which Jordan honorable posseses, is beyond doubt. The members of the popular delegation are our family's sons and they belong to it. It is not feasible to exploit their noble, humane task in the market of illusions.

AD-DUSTUR 19 Feb

JN190846 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 19 Feb 81 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "One Cannot Give What One Does Not Possess"]

[Text] It is no surprise that the Damascus authorities should resort to opportunism and fraudulent methods to cover up their persecution and torture of the Syrian people. These authorities have become like a drowning man who tries to hold on to a piece of straw to save himself from falling into the trash can of history. Those who have used terrorism to impose their presence on the Syrian people and inhuman practices to deal with the sons of their Arab nation have been blinded by their lust for power. Hence, they are unable to comprehend humanitarian precepts and the standards of dealing with human beings.

The trip of the Jordanian popular delegation to Damascus a few days ago was a humanitarian mission to save the life of a man kidnapped by the hand of treachery from the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut and to address the remnants of humanitarianism, if any exist, in the conscience of the abductors, who preferred to work under the cover of darkness to harm others. The delegation's mission embodied the worth attached to the human being in this country and the significance of preserving the lives of its citizens. This is one of the principles that Jordan--both its people and its leadership--believes in in its dealing with itself, its fraternal neighbors and its nation.

It is not surprising that the Damascus authorities, having caused this humanitarian mission to fail, should exploit the Jordanian delegation's trip to Syria to cover up its inhumane practices against the Syrian people. Nor is it surprising that the Syrian regime, which has used murder and terror against the sons of its homeland, should make light of the values which the Jordanian delegation brought with them to save the life of an Arab Jordanian threatened by the bludgeons and terrorism of the regime. However much the Damascus regime--whose background is mixed with the blood of innocents and the lives of unarmed civilians in Aleppo, Homs, Hamah and Damascus--tries to escape responsibility for its crimes and disguise itself in fraudulent humanitarianism, it will not be able to give its people, its nation and the world one proof of the ethics of its authority and humane interaction, for he who does not posses a quality cannot bestow it.

IRAQ'S 'IZZAT IBRAHIM VISITS AMMAN FOR TALKS

Arrival Report

JN190928 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Amman, 19 Feb (INA)--'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, arrived here this morning on an official visit of several days to Jordan, during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan.

Ibrahim was accorded an official reception at the airport. He was received by Crown Prince Hasan; Prime Minister Mudar Badran; the ministers of court, foreign affairs and information; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

King Husayn Meeting

JN191405 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council [RCC], held a meeting at An-Nadwah Palace this morning. The events and developments in the Arab homeland were reviewed and the Arab stand on current Arab issues was assessed. The future of Arab relations was also discussed.

Ibrahim gave a detailed review of the military situation on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland and the victories achieved by fraternal Iraq under President Saddam Husayn to regain its rights and complete sovereignty. Also discussed were the strong bilateral relations linking the two fraternal states and opportunities for joint cooperation.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Court Minister 'Amir Khammash and staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the armed forces. On the Iraqi side the meeting was attended by the general director of the RCC vice chairman's office and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

SOVIET AAPSO DELEGATION IN AMMAN FOR MEETINGS

Arrival Report

JN161701 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet AAPSO Committee arrived in Amman this afternoon on a week-long visit during which the delegation members will meet with senior Jordanian officials. The visitors will hold talks and exchange views on several topics, particularly the Middle East issue and the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories. The delegation's visit comes at the invitation of the Jordanian AAPSO Committee. The delegation comprises the committee deputy chairman and two other members. The Soviet AAPSO Committee supports the Arab rights and the Palestinian people's struggle for restoring all their national rights in their homeland. The committee also opposes Israel's attempts to Judaize the occupied Arab territories.

Statement on Palestine

JN170821 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Feb 81 p 20

[Excerpts] Amman--Vladimir Kudryavtsev, deputy chairman of the Soviet AAPSO Committee, has said that the committee fully supports the Palestinian people's struggle against Israeli occupation. This support is apparent in the Soviet Union's stand on the Palestinian issue, he added.

Crown Prince, Premier Meetings

JN171820 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Crown Prince Hasan received in his office today the delegation of the Soviet AAPSO Committee led by Vladimir Kudryantsev, deputy chairman of the Soviet AAPSO Committee. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan outlined the fundamental pillars of the Jordanian stand on the Middle East issue. He underlined the importance of the PLO's participation in any just settlement of the crisis in this region.

Kurdyantsev welcomed the rapprochement between the Soviet and Jordanian viewpoints on the fact that the Palestinian cause constitutes the axis of the Arab-Israeli conflict and on the necessity of securing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He also welcomed Crown Prince Hasan's comprehensive analyses of the contemporary developments in the region, the dead end facing the Camp David accords and the attempts to solve the Palestinian issue without the participation of the Palestinian people.

The meeting was attended by the president of the senate and the Soviet ambassador in Amman.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran also received the visiting Soviet AAPSO Committee delegation today in the presence of Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni. The two sides reviewed the developments in the Middle East region and their reflection on world peace. Speaking about Jordan's stand on the peace issue, Prime Minister Badran asserted the importance of the principles through which we can attain a just peace in the region, principles based on the comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, including Arab Jerusalem, and the Palestinian people's right to determine their future in their national homeland, including their right to establish their independent state under the PLO.

Prime Minister Badran spoke highly of the Soviet Union's stand on the Middle East issue. He expressed his appreciation for this stand and referred to the Soviet Union's great capacities and abilities, as a superpower, to adopt more positive stands that might be practically translated into action and not only declared. The prime minister pointed to the joint Soviet-U.S. statement of October 1977, which was ignored by the United States.

The two sides also reviewed bilateral relations. In this regard, Prime Minister Badran and members of the guest delegation expressed their satisfaction with the development of these relations in favor of the Soviet and Jordanian peoples and world peace as well.

King Husayn Reception

JN171931 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this evening the delegation of the Soviet AAPSO Committee led by Vladimir Kurdyantsev, deputy chairman of the Soviet AAPSO Committee. His majesty the king outlined the Jordanian and Arab viewpoint regarding the Middle East crisis and the means to attain a just and comprehensive peace in the region. The two sides also discussed international issues of common interest and Jordanian-Soviet relations.

The meeting was attended by Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni and the Soviet ambassador in Amman.

PAPERS SEE NEED FOR USSR MIDEAST PEACE ROLE

AR-RA'Y Comment

JN190842 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the expected Soviet role in the Middle East in light of the Soviet AAPSO Committee delegation's meetings with the Jordanian officials, the newspaper AR-RA'Y says: These meetings demonstrate the importance Jordan attaches to the role which the Soviet Union should play in contributing to achieving thedespired just solution. As is well known, Jordan was and is still against every attempt to exclude the Soviet Union from participating in bringing about such a solution. Likewise, Jordan expects Moscow not to confine its role to declarations, but to translate these declarations into actual practice.

The paper continues: As one of the two superpowers, the Soviet Union should shoulder its responsibility for establishing genuine peace in the area by participating in attaining complete Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, and in enabling the Palestinian people to regain their rights and to determine their future on their land. The peace issue in our area is closely linked with world peace. It is as important as international detente and the limitation of strategic weapons between the two camps.

Unquestionably continued Israeli aggression against the Arab rights constitutes the most serious hotbed threatening world peace and damaging international detente. Also, there is no doubt that the Soviet Union is aware that the Israeli aggressors seek to render the area a zone of conflict between the two camps and a center for foreign military bases and that the continued Israeli aggression is bound to complicate and exacerbate the situation.

In conclusion, AR-RA'Y says that the Soviet role in expediting the achievement of a just and comprehensive solution is an inevitable necessity for preventing the area from falling into international conflict or under foreign hegemony. It is also indispensable for boosting and preserving world peace.

AKHBAR AL-USBU' View

JN190803 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Firm Jordanian Stand and the International Moves," the newspaper AKHBAR AL-USBU' writes: The clear and firm Jordanian stand has become crystal clear as a result of the various international moves and the search for an acceptable formula to establish just peace in the Middle East. This stand has become an effective element in crystalizing the international stands and understanding of the real Arab-Israeli conflict and its direct impact on world peace and security.

Jordan, under His Majesty King Husayn, uses the same language and same concept with everyone for the sake of one objective. Jordan also asserts the requisite elements without which peace cannot be achieved and a lasting and just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict cannot be realized. Jordan reiterates that the peace process should take place with the participation of all sides, including Europe, the Soviet Union and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

As Jordan has conveyed its frank and clear-cut stand to Washington, pointing out the faults of the previous U.S. policies, its uninterrupted partiality toward Israel and its adoption of the Camp David accords, Jordan has also conveyed its stand with the same frankness and earnestness to the European leaders, stressing the need to adopt a clearer and more positive stand. This is what Husayn has told the European leaders; this is what Gaston Thorn heard when he visited the area; and this is what the Netherlands foreign minister will hear when he visits Amman next week.

In sum, Jordan is seeking a strong and firm international stand capable of ending the Israeli aggression. This role should not be confined to Washington. Nay this role must also be played by Moscow and the European capitals, because the peace process in the area is an indivisible part of world peace and security. This trend demonstrates Jordan's farsightedness and its desire to cancel the exploitive role Washington had played to settle the crisis in favor of Israel and world Zionism.

PAPER SCORES U.S. RDF PRESENCE IN GULF REGION

JN161410 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Feb 81 p 2

[Jidda Arab news commentary, in the "Guest Commentary" column: "'No' to Foreign Troops--Then and Now"]

[Text] A word springs immediately to mind as one reads the reports of meetings in Washington by "strategy experts" to discuss the role of America's "Rapid Deployment Force" in the Gulf--and that word is: incorrigible.

For only a few days ago, the Arab countries of the Gulf met and resolved to reject the presence of any foreign troops in the area. They also resolved to set up a permanent cooperation council whose principal aim was declared to be the achievement of self-reliance in security matters. Yet the Americans go on as if nothing has been said.

Even more bewilderingly, the U.S. defence secretary, Mr Weinberger, stated a few days ago his wish that the Israelis would "invite" American forces to facilities or bases there. The Israelis' reaction was that the Americans were welcome to the bases the Israelis were supposed to hand over to the Egyptians in Sinai--and that is all.

Then came the reports that the Americans want their intervention forces to be stationed in Egypt. And the report was embellished with news of Israeli worry on this count as it would seem to pull the mantle of the West's best ally from the Isralis. Egypt's stated policy has up to now been explicit rejection of American bases on its soil--no change was reported on this front.

The question all this leads to is: What is going on in the minds of America's leaders? Why the constant insistance on the possibility of intervention in the Gulf when the countries around it have made their stand on the issue so clear; when even those who are supposed to provide springboards for it in the areas near to the Gulf are showing such reluctance?

What is being cooked in Washington? What fire behind this smoke?

The long-held view of the countries of the Gulf is that security for this vital area and its people has to be a matter internal to them and no one else, foreign interference under whatever pretext, the periodic demands for foreign troops to be based in the area, have all been rejected on the sound ground that they undermine the very cause of stability they allegedly want to serve.

Two years ago, the At-Ta'if conference attended by the leaders of the Arab countries of the Gulf spelled this out clearly. Last autumn when the Gulf interior ministers met, once more in At-Ta'if, they repeated it, and started to take the matter into their own hands by setting up what amounted to an internal security pact. On February 4, the Gulf foreign ministers again met in Saudi Arabia and gave a firm rejection of calls for foreign troops in the area as well as a firm commitment to self-reliance as the only means to security.

This had led to speculation in the West that plans for a "Gulf confederation" are being laid--speculation which has been dismissed by the parties concerned as premature to say the least. What the area requires, and what it is providing for itself, is at present no more than coordination in the service of the collective security of its countries. This is a matter which takes time, although the foundations for a united security system have already been laid.

IRANIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS 18 FEB

NC181816 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] A 10-member Iranian delegation led by Jallaluddin Farsi, member of the cultural committee of the Iranian revolution, arrived in Beirut today on a 4-day visit to Lebanon. During this visit the delegation will meet with Lebanese officials and will discuss common issues between Lebanon and Iran.

Jallaluddin Farisi said at the airport: We are messangers of the Islamic revolution in Iran. We came to meet with the Lebanese and Palestinian brothers and the higher Shi'ite council in order to exchange views and acquaint ourselves with the situation.

Asked whether he is carrying any specific proposals regarding southern Lebanon, he said: We shall study the issue with the Lebanese and Palestinian brothers.

Meeting With Al-Wazzan

NC191807 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] This afternoon Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan held a meeting with the Iranian delegation currently visiting Lebanon. The discussion dealt with the current situation in Lebanon and the area.

After the meeting Jallaluddin Farsi said on behalf of the delegation: We exchanged views on the current issues in Lebanon and the area. Prime Minister al-Wazzan received us warmly and welcomed the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran, considering it a glitter of hope toward the unity of Muslims in the world. Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed his deep regret at the war taking place in Iran and at the human and material losses suffered by the fraternal Iraqi and Iranian peoples.

TALKS WITH ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BEGIN

NC191353 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei began his activities at 0900 today with a call on Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. They discussed the developments in the Lebanese situation and Prime Minister al-Wazzan briefed him on the dimensions and complexities of the Lebanese issue.

After the meeting the Romanian minister told correspondents: I will say nothing today; I shall leave that until after my meetings with the Lebanese officials. Tomorrow I shall call on the president of the republic, and then I will have a more complete picture. In my opinion the discussion will deal with important matters pertaining to the Lebanese issue.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan described the visit of the Romanian foreign minister as useful. He said that the discussion dealt with general issues. He said: He invited me to visit Romania, and I promised to pay the visit when circumstances permit. He also reviewed his country's positions on the Middle East issue, particularly the Palestinian issue.

Minister Andrei then proceeded to Mansur palace where he called on Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and discussed with him the Lebanese issue and the developments in the area.

From the Chamber of Deputies the Romanian minister and the delegation accompanying him proceeded to Bustrus palace where he held the first round of talks with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus.

Minister Butrus held a luncheon in honor of the Romanian minister and his party.

Exchange of Speeches

NC200914 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] After meeting with the prime minister in the government house the Romanian foreign minister went to the Foreign Ministry where Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus received him for the first round of talks.

The Romanian minister also met with the Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and Defense Minister Joseph Skaf.

At the banquet hosted in honor of the Romanian guest Fu'ad Butrus made a speech pointing out the positions that Lebanon is expecting from Romania and other friendly countries.

Butrus said: We realize that you well comprehend Lebanon's problem. With the help of fraternal and friendly countries we are trying to find solutions to our problems, to achieve a general accord and to solve the problems we have been facing for 6 years and which we hope are only temporary problems.

Concluding his speech Butrus said: We are convinced that the understanding that will be shown by our brothers and the effective friendship of other countries, including your country will contribute to finding solutions to our problems and enable us to emerge from the present ordeal. I would like to repeat what I said this morning, as well as in Romania, that Lebanon does not want to be a victim of international and regional political conflicts, nor a topic of bargaining. The Lebanese people are holding fast to their independence, freedom and unity in the area, where Lebanon has to survive. We call upon you and on all friends to assist us in making our efforts succeed.

The Romanian foreign minister made a reply speech stressing the continuing friendship and the need to stabilize the atmosphere of international peace and stability and peaceful cooperation among all peoples.

The Romanian foreign minister said that Romania is following with concern the situation in Lebanon and condemns the repeated Israeli aggressions against Lebanon. He said that Romania's stand regarding the events in Lebanon is well known; President Nicolae Ceausescu stressed this stand to you during your visit to Romania in October 1979. The Romanian foreign minister said: We believe that the solution to the situation in Lebanon can only be reached through respect for Lebanon's independence, territorial integrity and the establishment of accord.

The Romanian foreign minister also said that Romania stresses its support for a comprehensive political settlement of the situation in the Middle East, a settlement that would help to achieve a strong peace based on Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory occupied in the 1967 war, including the Arab city of Jerusalem, and solving the Palestinian people's problem: their right to self-determination, their right to establish their own independent state while maintaining the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of all the countries in the area.

ARAB VANGUARDS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMBING

NC191639 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Telephone conversation by unidentified "spokesman" of Arab Revolution Vanguard organization to Voice of Lebanon on the afternoon of 19 February--recorded]

[Text] On the basis of orders issued by our central command, we assume responsibility for throwing a bomb at [Syrian] intelligence headquarters.

A clash immediately ensued between our comrade fighters and those defending the Al-Asad clique during which our men fought with courage and heroism.

Unless our comrade fighters who have been detained in (Al-Hajariyah) in Aleppo Governorate are released, we shall embark on an operation to release them.

The organization also rejects the presence of Soviet experts [in Syria] because they have become spies in our homeland.

The organization has already appealed to the Red Cross. Since we already have in our possession 168 followers of the [word indistinct] clique, we call on the Red Cross to intervene quickly before it is too late to secure the release of commander Salah Jadid.

The statement is signed by Major (Hazim), the military bureau of the Arab Revolution Vanguards organization. [sentence as heard]

ARAB VANGUARDS CLAIM EXECUTION OF SOVIET EXPERT

NC191354 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] In a telephone conversation with the Voice of Lebanon radio today, persons claiming to belong to the Arab Revolution Vanguards organization claimed responsibility for the detention of two Soviet experts. One of them named (Zakharov) is an expert in telecommunications in Syria's Hamah Governorate. The callers said that he was executed today at 0400. The second is still being detained, and his fate has not yet been determined.

The callers urged the International Red Cross to intervene to secure the release of detainees in Syria, including Salah Jadid [a former Syrian chief of staff], before the organization is compelled to resort to torture and assassinations.

The Arab Revolution Vanguards organization spokesmen said that the organization seized secret documents on 7 February when it stormed the intelligence headquarters in the Hamah Governorate. These documents incriminate the regime with plans for political assassinations in the Arab states.

The callers also said that the organization is a branch of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party in Syria, and that it opposes the existing regime and has secret headquarters in all governorates.

SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIAL HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

JN191715 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--The Soviet Union has reaffirmed that no just and comprehensive peace can be achieved in the Middle East region except through Israel's total withdrawal from all the Arab lands occupied in 1967 and the Palestinian Arab people's restoration of their usurped rights, including their right to establish their independent homeland on their national soil.

This came in a statement delivered by (Viktor Bosava Niov), minister plenipotentiary in the Soviet Embassy in Damascus, during the press conference he held in Damascus this morning on the occasion of the forthcoming opening of the 26th CPSU Congress. In his statement he also stressed the Soviet Union's support for the just struggle of the progressive forces in the Arab homeland against the traitorous Camp David accords, which have ended with an impasse. He also stressed that the Syrian-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty reflects the strong relations between the two friendly countries.

MEETINGS, STATEMENT CONCLUDE USSR DELEGATION VISIT

Haydar Meeting

JN141718 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--A meeting was held today between Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the Foreign Relations Office, and Comrade Dallakyan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia. Their talks centered on preparations for the conference for solidarity with Syria to be held in June.

This conference, which will be organized bythe World Peace Council, comes in support of Syria's steadfastness against the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs. Comrade Dallakyan praised Syria's pan-Arab and progressive stands under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, militant Comrade Hafiz al-Asad.

Al-Ahmar Talks

JN142121 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, received this evening the Soviet ambassador in Damascus and the delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace under Dallakyan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia, currently visiting the country. The meeting was also attended by Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Ba'th Party National Command member and chairman of the national council of the peace partisans movement in Syria. Their talks dealt with relations between the peace councils in the two friendly countries and with the WPC. The two sides also discussed recent developments in the region.

Comrade al-Ahmar stressed that the Camp David accords have failed to establish a just and durable peace in the region. He emphasized that these accords are facing a deadlock. Comrade al-Ahmar also asserted that the Ba'th Party and the revolution in Syria, under militant Comrade Leader Hafiz al-Asad, are adhering to their inalienable and principled policy of countering these plots, their subsidiary aggressive designs and the various forms of reactionary plotting against this country. He reaffirmed that this country is determined to continue the struggle on the side of all free and revolutionary powers to abort the policy of capitulation, all unilateral deals as well as the various suspicious settlements that fall within the framework of the Camp David accords.

Comrade al-Ahmar said that a just, comprehensive and durable peace in the region can only be attained through a comprehensive and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's indisputable legitimate national rights, particularly their right to self-determination and establishment of their national independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

Comrade al-Ahmar underlined the importance of preserving the solidarity of the forces of peace and freedom in the world in order to defeat the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught in our region as well as other regions. He outlined the importance of the WPC solidarity conference which is due to convene in Damascus in June in order to expose this onslaught and to express support for the struggle of Syria and the PLO against the plots of Zionism and reaction. Comrade al-Ahmar praised the Syrian-Soviet friendship and its important role in countering these plots against the Arab nation's causes and above all the Palestinian cause.

Dallakyan, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, voiced the Soviet peoples' great appreciation of Syria's firm policy of hostility to imperialism and Zionism and under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. Dallakyan reaffirmed that the Soviet Union supports the Arabs' just causes. He also commended Syria's steadfast stands in the face of various forms of plotting and reactionary pressures, particularly those pressures coming from the activities of the agent tools which seek to destabilize Syria and weaken its resistance. Dallakyan asserted that Syria has the support of the various forces of freedom and progress in the world in further bolstering its steadfastness and in further pursuing progress and socialism.

Final Talks

JN152006 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 Feb 81

[Text] The final working session was held in Damascus today between the delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace under Comrade Dallakyan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia and member of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, and the delegation of the national council of peace partisans movement in Syria under Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Ba'th Party National Command member, vice chairman of the World Peace Council and chairman of the peace council in Syria.

The session was devoted to a review of issues of joint interest and the means to develop bilateral relations between the peace movements in the two countries within the framework of the world peace movement. The two sides reiterated the failure of the Camp David agreements and the As-Sadat Egyptian-Israeli deal to establish a just and permanent peace in the region. Both sides condemned the U.S. imperialist military escalation and the establishment of military bases in a number of countries in the region particularly the Gulf region. The Syrian and Soviet sides affirmed that the Syrian-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty is an important contribution to continued cooperation between the two friendly countries and to a permanent, real and just peace in the region. The Soviet side expressed its appreciation of Syria's anti-imperialist, and anti-Zionist policy under the Ba'th Party and Secretary General Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. The Soviet side reiterated its support for Syria's decisive stand in facing the plots and the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary pressure. Both sides stressed the importance of the international conference of peace forces to be held in Damascus on 25 June 1981 sponsored by the WPC under the slogan of solidarity with Syria and the PLO against imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plots.

Delegation Departure

JN161735 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--The delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace led by Mr Dallakyan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia, left Damascus at 1300 today after a 1-week visit to Syria at the invitation of the national council for peace partisans movement in Syria. The Soviet delegation held talks with a number of Syrian officials on developing relations between the two peace movements in the two friendly countries.

Joint Statement

JN162048 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--A joint statement was issued in Damascus today on the visit to Syria of the delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace led by Mr Dallakyan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia, and its talks with the national council of peace partisans movement in Syria.

The two sides reviewed the international situation and the Arab situation in particular and means of developing cooperation between the two peace movements in the two countries.

They praised highly the results of the meetings between Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of Syrian Arab Republic, and Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, last October in Moscow.

The two sides stressed that the signing of the Syrian-Soviet treaty of friendship and cooperation is a new important step on the path of continuing to strengthen and expand the relations of cooperation between Syria and the USSR. They said the treaty will effectively rectify the situation in the Middle East and establish a just, real and firm peace in the region.

The two sides gave special attention to the situation in the Middle East under the Camp David agreements and the unilateral Egyptian-Israeli bargain. They stressed that the capitulatory trend of the Egyptian regime has greatly harmed the Arab interests and rights and the process of establishing just and firm peace in the region based on Israel's unconditional withdrawal from all Arab lands occupied in 1967, securing of the inalienable and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self-determination and establishment of their independent national state.

They also expressed their concern at the recent escalation of international tension resulting from the frenzied activity by the aggressive imperialist and Zionist and reactionary forces throughout the world. They stressed that the halt of the arms race and the achievement of effective disarmament measures are the world people's most important aspirations. They also affirmed their sincerity in struggling to support the issues of peace and security of all people in order to strengthen the march of international detente.

The two sides denounced the continued Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon. They stressed the importance of unifying the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front; the importance of cooperation among Arab national and progressive forces in foiling the plots of imperialism, Zionism and reactionary parties in the region; and the importance and effectiveness of cooperation and coordination between the Arab national liberation movement and the supporters of liberation and peace in the world, particularly the socialist community led by the USSR.

The Soviet side praised Syria's hostility to imperialism and Zionism under the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, Hafiz al-Asad, who stand at the forefront of the Arab national liberation movement. It reiterated its complete solidarity with Syria's decisive stand in confronting all kinds of imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies and pressure.

The two sides expressed their concern at the existence and continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian dispute, which weakens the resistance struggle against U.S. imperialism and its allies. They support a just and peaceful solution to this dispute free of any foreign intervention.

They stressed the importance of the international conference of peace forces to held in Damascus on 25 June at the initiative of the WPC under the slogan: Solidarity with Syria and the PLO against imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies. The two sides call on all organizations struggling for peace and people's security to effectively prepare for and participate in work of this important conference.

UPI CITED ON MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD CLASH IN JORDAN

JN180709 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Beirut--Reports from Jordan say that bloody clashes broke out between two rival factions of the [words indistinct] of the Muslim Brotherhood Organization in the Jordanian city of Az-Zarqa' on 13 and 14 February resulting in the killing or wounding of scores of elements of the opposing groups.

UPI cited Arab diplomatic sources in the Lebanese capital, described as reliable, as saying that the competing organizations held a meeting to unite under one leadership. However, the meeting failed amid sharp disagreement between the leaders of the two organizations, who exchanged accusations, abuses and threats. The sources added that following these exchanges, one of the factions attempted to physically liquidate the other by means of armed force. In the bloody clashes scores from both factions were killed or wounded.

The same sources reported that the Jordanian authorities were forced to use the army to halt these clashes. Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran personally intervened using the Jordanian Army, demanded the arrest of those responsible for the clashes and imposed a complete news blackout on these bloody clashes.

Further Report

JN182149 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--In its English language newscast yesterday afternoon, the U.S. UPI news agency carried a news item reporting that clashes broke out between two rival factions of the Muslim Brotherhood Organization in the Jordanian city of Az-Zarqa'. The clashes took place in the wake of a joint meeting the factions held to unite their ranks. The two factions failed to reach any agreement.

This news item was confirmed yesterday by several news agencies, including DPA under item No 144, and by other radio stations, including Monte Carlo radio. After the scandal became known and the prime minister of the Jordanian regime, Mudar Badran, had failed to keep it a secret, the Jordanian authorities arrested the UPI correspondent in Amman and asked the agency to deny the news in exchange for his release. UPI in fact denied the news today. This measure by the Jordanian regime comes to proves that the prime minister of the Jordanian regime, Mudar Badran, is concerned about protecting this organization with all available means.

ANTI-IRAQI FRONT HOLDS HOSTAGES, MAKES DEMANDS

JN192145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad--The revolutionaries of the Democratic National Front in Iraq stressed today their determination to keep their nine hostages until the Iraqi authorities have yielded to their demands on releasing its detained revolutionaries and have stopped the wild liquidation campaign carried out by the Iraqi authorities against the defenseless Iraqi people, particularly in the north.

The Iraqi regime has been carrying out a bloody liquidation campaign against the Iraqi people and national forces for quite some time. The victims of this campaign were tens of thousands of martyrs, prisoners and deportees. The campaign has been launched in an attempt to consolidate the pillars of Saddam Husayn's bloody regime, which is rejected by our people in Iraq.

KHADDAM RECEIVES LIBYAN JUSTICE OFFICIAL

JN191353 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received Muhammad Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Justice, today. The meeting was attended by Syrian Minister of Justice Khalid al-Maliki and Ahmad ibn Khayyal, head of the Libyan relations office in Damascus. They reviewed the general situation in the Middle East and the fraternal relations between the two countries.

Syrian Justice Minister Khalid al-Maliki and Interior Minister Maj Gen Nasir ad-Din Nasir separately received Muhammad abu al-Qasim and discussed fraternal relations between the fraternal countries.

ATH-THAWRAH ASSAILS KING HUSAYN'S U.S. VISIT

JN130930 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 13 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "The Confrontation of the Jordanian Regime's Plots Is a Duty of Struggle," the paper ATH-THAWRAH says in its editorial: The Jordanian regime is fumbling about and attempting to mask its already exposed plotting face through using the radios of the Phalangists and Zionist entity to transmit some words, just as if these radios' adoption of Jordan's role were not sufficient proof of this role's nature, goals and dimensions. However, what can this regime do now that it is involved up to its ears in the mire of the imperialist-Zionist scheme. Indeed, this regime cannot even budge without receiving orders from Washington and Tel Aviv and acting in accordance with the plans drawn up for it by the U.S. and Zionist intelligence.

We are aware that through plotting against the Palestinian issue, the Jordanian regime is implementing a U.S.-Israeli decision to liquidate the issue in favor of the Israeli occupation and U.S. hegemony. We are aware that through its feverish attempts to sever relations between the one people in the two fraternal states and the campaign of hatred, hostility and malice against steadfast Syria, the Jordanian regime is only implementing an Israeli-U.S. decision. This exactly applies to the incident of the Jordanian diplomat's kidnapping in Beirut, which was prearranged by Jordanian intelligence or its friends and which flows into the mainstream and serves the scheme itself.

The Jordanian regime, however, does not realize that its exposed game cannot deceive the Arab citizen, particularly the sons of our fraternal Arab people in Jordan, who are the primary targets of the regime's plot. The purpose of this plot is to tighten the intelligence service's suppression of these people in order to subjugate them, thus making them incapable of confronting the regime's plotting role particularly now that this role is in the stages of implementation with the approaching date of the planned meeting between the new U.S. administration, represented by President Reagan, and King Husayn, which will pave the way for an official announcement of his majesty the king's role and the beginning of the implementation of this role.

The paper concludes: The Jordanian regime was under the illusion that it could mask its ugly plotting face, but it has failed to do so. The Arab masses throughout the Arab homeland and the sons of our fraternal people in Jordan cannot be drugged by lies and falsities.

ALGERIA

NO U.S. AGREEMENT ON NATURAL GAS PRICE REACHED

LD200813 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] It has been learned from the Ministry of Energy and Petrochemical Industries that the previous round of negotiations between the Algerian Government and the American administration over the price of liquified natural gas has ended without reaching any agreement. The same sources explain that this negative outcome is the result of a change in the American stance represented by the turning down of certain points--points of agreement which the previous American administration was ready to accept. These points were considered by the Algerian side as fundamental for reaching a temporary agreement which would have enabled El Paso Company to be supplied with the liquified natural gas and to continue the negotiations for reaching a long-term agreement over prices.

SAHARAN STATES MEETING ENDS; COMMUNIQUE RELEASED

LD192353 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The conference of foreign ministers of the Saharan states ended this afternoon in Algiers with the reading of the final communique and with addresses by brother Ben Yahia, Algerian foreign minister, and Acyl Ahmat Chadian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Brother Ben Yahia voiced satisfaction over the outcome of this meeting which has, as he said, reaffirmed the joint desire of our countries [the countries bordering the Sahara] to move ahead on the road to cooperation and friendship. He also expressed his gratitude and thanks for the creative dialogue which prevailed during the conference and the spirit of responsibility showed by participants and which contributed to the success of the conference. Brother Ben Yahia analyzed the results achieved in order to promote cooperation between the Saharan states and expressed his belief that keeping to the spirit of the Bamako summit and strengthening relations between the countries of the region makes us, as he put it, tackle with maturity and objectivity all the problems posed to us and to our region today. The brother minister concluded by stressing that a deep study of the agenda of this conference has made it possible to see a common and deepseated preoccupation to secure peace, stability and security for our region.

Replying to this address, the Chadian minister for foreign affairs and cooperation made a speech of thanks in which, on behalf of all the delegations, he thanked President Chadli Bendjedid, the Algerian Government and the Algerian people for their hospitality. He also hailed the efforts made by Algerian to tangibly promote cooperation between the Saharan states.

The conference of the foreign ministers of the Saharan states was crowned by the release of a final communique, the text of which follows:

In accordance with the resolutions of the fifth summit conference of heads of the Saharan states and governments, the council of the Saharan states' foreign ministers held an ordinary meeting in Algiers on 17, 18 and 19 February 1981. For the Demodratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, the conference was attended by brother Mohamed Ben Yahia, the foreign minister; by Mr Abd al-Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the Popular Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau, for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah; by Alioune Blodin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, for the Republic of Mali; by Mr Mohamed Mokhtar Ould Zamel, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; Mr Daouda Diallo, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, for the Republic of Niger; and by Mr Acyl Ahmat Alkabache, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, for the Republic of Chad.

The foreign ministers reviewed the activities of the ad hoc committee set up during the Bamako summit in order to promote cooperation in a tangible way in all fields. They also discussed the results of the committee of culture, information and social affairs which met in Nouakchott, and the committee for transport and communications which met in Algiers.

The foreign ministers expressed satisfaction over the fact that these committees have been able to define a precise and detailed program for regional cooperation. It also has been possible to fix an agenda for convening seminars, symposiums, fairs and cultural, social and scientific shows in order to ensure continuous and thorough familiarization among all the peoples of the region.

Scientific commissions have been set up in order to ensure common and multifaceted development and research in the Saharan region and to secure a reasonable base for a development policy based on consultation.

The foreign ministers also stressed the program concerning the meeting of the three other committees [as heard], reaffirmed the determination of their respective countries to continue to strengthen cooperation existing between them, and make all efforts to ensure the success and realization of the program laid down by the heads of their respective states and governments during the Bamako meeting in March 1980.

They have agreed to the fact that such cooperation, which stems from the various ties dictated by neighborliness, history and shared spiritual and cultural values, constitutes a strong element in the prosperity of all the peoples of the region through the coordinated development of their countries, based on identity and complementarity.

In the context of such prospects, the foreign ministers lauded the fact that the tasks of the various committees, the level of participation of the member states and the working methods adopted guarantee the success of the march being followed in order to set up a unified regional bloc that will meet the aspirations of their respective peoples.

The foreign ministers, on the other hand, exchanged views in a thorough manner on the situation in the region. They expressed full satisfaction over the results reached by their conference. They hailed the fraternal spirit and frankness that marked their work. The foreign ministers voiced their warm thanks for the Algerian people and government for the fraternal warm welcome accorded to them and for the hospitality showed to them and to members of their respective delegations.

LIBYA

AT-TURAYKI INTERVIEWED ON CHAD, MAGHREB RELATIONS

LD190801 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 16-21 Feb 81 pp 19-21

[Interview granted by Libyan Secretary of Foreign Affairs 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki to Rashid Khashnah in Tunis--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] It is said that Algeria is perturbed by the Libyan-Chadian unity plan because it changes the balance of power on its southeastern borders, particularly since it did not welcome the plan when it was declared just as it did when unity between Syria and the Jamahiryah was declared. Before coming here you visited Algiers and some time ago Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud did the same. What developments are there in Libyan-Algerian relations?

[Answer] Algerian-Libyan relations are the best they could be; they are solid and very strong. There is complete coordination between us and the Algerian brothers. Let us come to what is called Libyan-Chadian unity. We, as Africans and in accordance with the OAU Charter, naturally believe in African unity, which is also part of our charter. The Arab brothers might be ignorant of the situation in Chad. A large part of this country's inhabitants are Arabs--in the north, center and east. And the majority of the Chadian people are Muslims. This is a fact. We believe that our helping the legitimate Chadian Government against the mutiny was an Arab and African action. Why? Because Hissein Habre had links with the Israeli enemy and relations with the Egyptian regime, which is hostile to the Arab nation. Several direct meetings were held between Habre or officials representing him and former Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman in Cairo in the presence of Egyptian Vice President Husmi Mubarak. Israeli and Egyptian weapons were found in Chad. We helped the legitimate government to crush the mutiny which had lasted several years and for the first time in 15 years the Chadian people know peace, security and stability.

The African countries ought therefore to have thanked the Jamahiriyah. We acted on behalf of Africa in giving assistance to this fraternal people at the request of the legitimate government which was threatened by the mutiny. When President Goukouni came [to Libya] he discussed the question of cooperation between the two countries. We are helping the Chadian people to help themselves. The joint statement was not an agreement on unity but on opening borders and on the unity of the two fraternal peoples, something which is included in every joint statement with every African state. Therefore, constitutional unity between the Libyan people and the Chadian people has not been proposed so far. But if the two peoples decide to achieve unity it will not be contrary to Libya's unity with Algeria, or Libya's unity with Tunisia, or Arab unity, or African unity as a whole. To say that Algeria is dissatisfied is not true. On the contrary, Algeria fully supports the legitimate government and fully supports what we have offered to the Chadian people. We believe the contrary. Had it not been for this action there would have been an Israeli presence and a French colonialist presence in Chad. France is primarily interested--and this has been its policy--in preventing the Arab nation on the African Continent from achieving cohesion and rapprochement with the rest of the African continent. It has always used the terms "black Africa," "white Africa," "Africa north of the Sahara," and "Africa south of the Sahara." The Chadians' expulsion of France is a historic step toward the cohesion of the Arab nation as part of this continent with the rest of the continent. Therefore, we must--without fear from French colonialism and its attempts to discredit the Arabs in the African Continent by using Libya as a first step--to realize as Arabs and Africans the gravity of the colonialist game and to get in touch with our brothers in order to achieve real economic integration. The meeting of countries bordering the Sahara was probably one of the major objectives for us in refuting this French lie.

France is exploiting Africa's wealth and has colonized it for scores of years. From the African who has no electricity France takes uranium in order to make nuclear power to generate electricity and prosperity for Europe. The same thing can be said about the mines, such as the phosphate and manganese mines which France is exploiting at a time when the African peoples are the poorest of all peoples. The Arab nation's participation in joint economic action within the framework of Arab-African cooperation means the end of the colonialist monopolies and particularly of France's aim of fighting Arab policies in Africa. They [the French] have tried to denigrate even Arab-African cooperation on the grounds that they want Arab-African-European cooperation. Why? Because Arab-African cooperation--that is cooperation between Arab money and African raw materials--is in the final analysis a major project in the interests of the Arab nation and Africa.

Now they want to use Arab money--a proposal by President Giscard d'Estaing which is almost certainly rejected by the Arab countries--as well as other means, including cultural means such as negroism, to obliterate the historical ties between the Arab nation and Africa. [sentence as published]

We, therefore, confirm that there is no constitutional unity between Libya and Chad although the OAU Charter endorses such unity, calls for it and is one of its objectives. Supposing that Libya and Chad, or Niger and Mali, or Algeria and Mali decided to achieve such unity, would this be a crime? Why this strong reaction? Is it, for example, Libya's right or Chad's right to say to France "don't join the European Common Market"? The problem is that France still clings to a mentality that believes in some sort of trusteeship or "protection" toward some of the African countries. France cannot now say "I have a responsibility toward Algeria" because it has left Algeria for good.

The French contacted us and said, "Let us officially share influence in Chad." But we rejected this. We have gone to Chad as liberators and not as colonialists; our aim is to liberate Chad from French colonialism. Of course Chad is a strategic area for them and they have always used it to strike at other African powers. This has come to an end once and for all with the liberation of Chad.

[Question] Apropos of the subject of unity, there is much speculation about unity between Syria and Libya with talk about difficulties because of differences of view on the nature of the unitary state and its institutions will this united state see the light of day in the near future?

[Answer] There is no doubt that this unity will see the light of day if there is delay in implementing it is because of our desire for it to be strong and effective.

[Question] The Iraqi envoy who recently toured the Arab countries excluded Libya, Syria and South Yemen from his tour. What is the situation regarding Libyan-Iraqi relations and how would you answer the accusation that you failed to support a war which the Iraqi leadership regards as a national war for the liberation of Arab territories and islands?

[Answer] With regard to the Iraq-Iran war our view on it was quite clear from the beginning, namely that this war is a dirty war and serves only colonialism. We wished--as the telegram from the brother leader of the revolution to Imam Khomeyni and President Saddam Husayn proves--the Iraqi Army and the Iranian Army to fight together in the same trench against Zionism, colonialism and the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation. Fighting between two Islamic armies is an anti-Islamic action. The revolution leader's statement that "both the killer and the killed will go to hell" is probably proof of this.

We are with any Arab country that comes under attack but we will never be a party to fighting against the Iranian revolution. The Iraqi forces that have been sent against Iran should have been stationed on the Syrian and Jordanian fronts in order to fight Israel and not the Iranian revolution. We saw the revolution against the shah--the racist, the Persian, and the anti-Arab--and Iran's return to the principles of Islam and Muslim brotherhood as Arab-Iranian fraternity under the banner of Islam and not as Persian racism hostile to the Arabs as existed under the shah. We therefore do not approve of this war. Of course, we will not take part in a war against Iraq but in the final analysis this war is harmful to the Arab nation because it is against its interest.

[Question] Let us discuss the Arab Maghreb and particularly Libya's relations with Morocco, which so far have shown no signs of easing since diplomatic relations between the two countries were severed.

How do you evaluate these relations at present and are there any possibilities of rapprochement, especially in view of the relaxed atmosphere in the area following the Algerian-Moroccan contacts and the Tunisian-Libyan rapprochement?

[Answer] There might have been Algerian-Moroccan contacts, but as far as Morocco is concerned, we did not break off relations with it; it was Morocco that broke off relations with Libya. We are not the only ones who disagree with Morocco; other African Arabs also disagree with it over the question of the Sahara. Libya was the first to give support to the Saharan people to free themselves from Spanish colonialism. We were never against unity between the Saharan people and Morocco or against unity between the Saharan people and Mauritania. Our primary aim was to expel Spanish colonialism. But this people who for many years struggled against Spanish colonialism should not have been treated like a flock of sheep, divided or annexed. Rather, their opinion must be heeded. If they decide to join Morocco they are free to do so and we welcome any unitary action. If they decide to join Mauritania we would welcome such a decision. If they decide to remain independent they are free as well. Peoples are not measured by their numbers of resources. We are for unity even at the level of the Arab Maghreb if we can achieve it.

[Question] Political developments in Tunisia have removed from power personalities which Libya considered hostile to rapprochement between the two countries and brought in others who support the development of relations with the Jamahiryah. Is this the only factor in the recent reconciliation reached during your recent visit to Tunis or is there an objective base for this reconciliation?

[Answer] In face we do not look at this as reconciliation because there is no disagreement between Libya and Tunisia; we are one people and are fully and organically linked. We belong to Arabism and to the same religion. In addition to these national and religious factors there are geographical and kinship factors. We are not only almost one people but also one tribe. I believe that proximity and neighborhood has made thousands of Tunisians Libyans and thousands of Libyans Tunisians. This exists on all levels.

Our relations have had their ups and downs, particularly after the 1 September revolution in Libya. Today national action and the achievement of our principal objectives, foremost of which is Arab unity, are no longer an emotional action. We Libyans do not look on them as an emotional action because it is not emotions alone that bring us together but more common interests, even if from a purely interest aspect. If we take Libya alone, or Tunisia alone, or Algeria alone we will remain midget states with no hope of real development of real defense of their own territories or social or cultural progress. We must therefore work toward the achievement of our full unity, the unity of the whole Arab nation, not of just neighboring countries as Libya and Tunisia.

We have now reached a wonderful state of relations, but of course, for internal and external reasons, Libyan-Tunisian relations passed through a crisis when--and I say this frankly--Hedi Nouira was head of the Tunisian Government. Indeed this was the case not only with Tunisian-Libyan relations but also with the Tunisian-Arab relations.

[Question] Will the rapprochement between Tunis and Tripoli remain occasional and based on passing interests or is there an essential agreement on a long-term view regarding the development of relations in accordance with a precise and stage-by-stage program and steps agreed upon by both sides? Will the next step be a visit to Tripoli by a Tunisian official?

[Answer] Such a program does exist. We have the foundations for a program which, if we implement it, would attain total economic integration between Libya and Tunisia. We in Libya clearly confirm our total support and backing for this program of cooperation between the two countries.

We belie e that there cannot be real and balanced development in Libya if there is no similar development in Tunisia. Development in Libya and Tunisia must pursue the same course and be balanced. What we own in Libya ultimately belongs to the Arab nation.

[Question] Your relations with France became tense because of the events in Chad. threatened to intervene militarily in Chad while Libya threatened to hit French economic and political interests in the Arab homeland. How did the recent relaxation in relations between Paris and Tripoli take place and is this relaxation likely to continue?

[Answer] We have ties of cooperation with France. We are not against such cooperation. Rather, we were the first to break the arms monopoly through an arms deal with France so that arms would not be monopolized by imperialism or by the United States. We established relations with France and appreciated French policy toward the Arab cause, particularly during General de Gaulle's era. We considered this a positive stand. But we disagree with colonialist France. We are for cooperation with France and not against cooperation between France and the African countries. France has a right to such cooperation. But we are against French bases on the African Continent and regard them as a threat to Africa's security. We are against French interference in the domestic affairs of African countries and attempts to create alliances on the continent in the interest of France and the West. Africa can therefore only be its own ally; should there be alliances they have to be between the African countries. We are against the French presence in Chad and France knows that.

We will resist any threat to Chad. We will not resist it with words alone because we are present in Chad and have consolidated our military presence. Any attack on this country will be considered an attack on Libya. We hope that the French Government will think with a 20th-century mentality and not a colonialist 18th-century mentality. We still want cooperation with France as long as it respects our people's will and does not interfere in the domestic affairs of our country or other countries.

JANA: NO CONDITION FOR AL-QADHDHAFI-SHAGARI MEETING

LD191450 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Feb 81

[xcerpt] In a report from Lagos citing a so-called source close to the Nigerian Foreign Ministry, AFP says that Nigerian President Shehu Shagari will meet Colonel al-Qadhdhafi on the condition that Tripoli agrees to withdraw its forces from Chadian territory. JANA refutes this report which is mere fabrication by AFP, because President Shagari has stipulated no conditions for his meeting with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. The talks which Staff Major Jallud conducted were extremely successful; at the end of those talks the president expressed deep satisfaction and made a statement to the press.

President Shagari received Major Jallud at home in Lagos and they conducted talks which lasted for hours. During these talks Major Jallud explained the role which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has played in ending the civil war in Chad, the war which had lasted many years and which could have spread to set all the African forest on fire.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI SAYS CHADIAN WAR 'ONLY JUST STARTING'

LD200925 Paris LE FIGARO Magazine in French 14-20 Feb 81 pp 40-43

[Robert Lacntre undated interview in Khartoum with Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri: "I'm Back From Sudan: Al-Qadhdhafi Wants To Seize It"]

[Excerpts] The proverb says: "When he had created Sudan Allah laughed." Ja'far Numayri, leftwing marshal who now pursues a rightwing policy, is not a man to use sarcasm.

He spent several terms in prison for his socialist-type ideas. After 10 years in power this Nasirite, who has consolidated the unity of his country--the largest in Africa, five times the size of France and with 18 million inhabitants, 370 tribes and 100 languages--while ending a 17 year old civil war (which claimed half a million lives) between the Muslim and Arab north and the black animistic and Christian south, has learned the lessons of history.

The rais received me in the vast "Palace of Friendship," built entirely of Chinese marble donated by Mao, in the presence of his press adviser, Minister of State Muhammad Mahjub, and the witty Sudanese ambassador in Paris, Bashir al-Bakri, who speaks excellent French. There followed 2 hours of geopolitical analysis, examined the following day on the radio and television. Everybody knew that the president had received someone from LE FIGARO magazine. They greeted me in the streets.

His exposition was an ardent tribute to France--"France, the country of civilization, freedom and equality. We are grateful to it because we have benefited from its ideas. We defend the same principles." He recalled in passing that he has been to Paris twice--in 1976 and 1977--and that Valery Giscard d'Estaing came to Khartoum last year.

Next he stressed the prominent political and economic role which our country must play throughout Africa, and not only French-speaking Africa. "When Giscard d'Estaing asked me whether he could grant independence to Djibouti I said yes--but only on condition that he did not withdraw all the troops at once. Djibouti is now stable. The Somali-Ethiopian conflict has not affected it."

Following a brief historical explanation regarding Chad, he added: "The French troops in Ndjamena (which means resting place) were also an element of stability. But from the outset it was clear that Al-Qadhdhafi was maneuvering to destabilize that area. He has done his utmost to prevent Goukouni from coming to Khartoum to hold a dialogue with the leaders of the other tendencies. The latest intervention in Chad was not Al-Qadhdhafi's. He does not have the means. His officers are worthless. The very idea of attack is alien to him. Obviously the USSR is operating behind Libya."

He stressed that at the first Lagos meeting the African countries had not yet realized the danger and that the international press spoke of almost nothing but the minority's decision to ask France to withdraw. Now Chad's neighbors know where they stand. "The USSR is never neutral. It has a global strategy. The Afghan invasion proves it." Next he made the following disclosure to us: "In the Iraqi-Iranian war the Soviet Union incites first one side then the other. It has everything to gain from this war. This is why South Yemen buys Soviet weapons which it resells to Iraq. At the same time Moscow is also arming the Iranians."

The marshal continued as follows: "The USSR takes advantage of Libya's petrodollars. It is a source of hard currency for it. Did the Libyan leader not say in Benghazi that he would extend the war to within Sudan, Egypt and France? The Russians intervened in Chad through the intermediary of Al-Qadhdhafi. Ndjamena has fallen. But the war is not over. It is only just starting."

The Sudanese president's voice became serious: "The situation is extremely serious. I know that the Russo-Libyans are massing troops at Abeche. Three big Tupolev 22's are airlifting tanks. I have had to regroup my troops along the border and I have to keep a careful watch for any subversive attempts in the areas near the border. Africa's destabilization would be a disaster for everyone. All African countries are now threatened by Moscow's undermining work. France must be vigilant with us. Decisions must be made at once. It is the free world's duty. Unless we do so, events will be repeated. Other countries will fall. There will be further 'Tehran hostages.'" What about Reagan's America? "Let us wait before issuing a verdict."

REPORTS ON AL-QADHDHAFI, NUMAYRI MESSAGES DENIED

JN201026 Khartoum SUNA in English 0955 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb (SUNA)--Sudanese State Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak categorically denied the authenticity of statements made by Libya, and reported by news agencies, on messages exchanged with the president of the republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri. In statement to SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) yesterday he also stressed Sudan's outright rejection to making the mass media a platform of the discussion of such issues which have to be dealt with in the context of the Organization of African Unity.

Mirghani explained that variance between Sudan and Libya lies in Libya's occupation of the sisterly Chad and the flagrant violation of its unity and sovereignty against all norms and charters that govern international behaviour. He also indicated all regional and continental perils signified by this act.

The variance is a principled and fundamental one. The Sudan had so expressed it in the past and will confront, in the future, all similar transgressions on the grounds of our belief that the peoples are the masters of their destiny and the sole builders of their future in a situation of freedom which can not be realized under armies of occupation, Mubarak stressed.

Concluding his statement, the minister reaffirmed Sudan's rejection to the Libyan presence in Chad. He demanded that Libya should pull out its troops immediately if it were truly caring for the principles of good neighbourliness and the codes of salutary behaviour among states.

TUNISIA

MZALI COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO, LIBYA

LD192358 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali attended a luncheon held in his honor by the French Diplomatic Press Association in Paris during which he met with French and world pressmen.

Mzali was asked questions about Tunisian-Moroccan relations, Tunisian-Libyan relations, the future of the Arab Maghreb, and the Middle East problem.

In reply, he pointed out that agreement was reached with Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid on the need for consultations to coordinate positions of the two countries in the negotiations to be conducted with the European Economic Community, particularly after its expansion.

As for Tunisian-Libyan relations, Prime Minister Mzali said they are actually improving, and dialogues and contacts are continuing between the two countries. I have been invited to pay an official visit to Tripoli, he said, and we hope when it takes place, the visit will be crowned with a number of agreements for which preparations should be made now. Tunisia will respond to an invitation by the Jamahiriyah secretary for economy to participate in the Tripoli fair. Minister of National Economy Abdelaziz Lasram will also visit Tripoli at the invitation of his Libyan counterpart Abu Zayd Durdah. As you see, dialogue has started and we always welcome Colonel al-Qadhdhafi in Tunisia.

As for Tunisia's attitude on the question of unity between Libya and Chad, Mzali said the two peoples concerned with this unity are the only ones concerned, to the exclusion of all others.

PAPER REPORTS ISRAEL HAS NO FEAR OF U.S. AID CUTS

TA191017 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] I have been told by senior sources that Jerusalem has no fear of reduced U.S. aid to Israel in 1982. This remark was made in light of President Reagan's address last night, in which he announced U.S. budget cuts.

Israeli Embassy staff members in Washington dealing with the requests for U.S. aid have recently held a number of meetings with administration personalities and have been told that, despite the decision to curtail the foreign aid budget as well, there is no intention of harming Israel. Our embassy personnel have been told that the Reagan administration will adopt the decisions made by the previous administration on the issue of aid to Israel.

In mid-January the Carter administration decided to grant Israel $2.2 billion in aid for 1982, the same as it gave Israel in 1981, of which $1.4 billion is military aid (divided into $500 million as a grant and the rest in the form of a loan) and $785 million is economic aid (two-thirds as a grant and the rest as a loan on comfortable terms).

Jerusalem regards the new administration's decision not to cut the aid as an important achievement. At any rate, it appears that Israel and Egypt are the only countries whose 1982 aid allocations would not be harmed.

PRG SPOKESMAN, TZIPORI VIEW FRG-SAUDI ARMS DEAL

FRG: No New Developments

TA191124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Herbew 1100 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The FRG Government spokesman has strongly denied German media reports of new developments in the arms deal with Saudi Arabia. Speaking to our correspondent Tzvi Lidar, the spokesman, (Lotte Rehl), said that no official FRG mission has recently visited Riyadh.

The German Embassy in Israel also knows nothing about an FRG delegation which allegedly returned from Saudi Arabia and which reported the preparations for the arms deal have been completed. The embassy told our correspondent Dan Eshel that the FRG position on the supply of arms to confrontation countries has not changed.

The Israel Embassy in Bonn refused to comment on this. It nevertheless expressed surprise at Foreign Minister Genscher's statement that Israel had not applied pressure on the arms deal because several weeks ago our ambassador, Yohanan Meroz, met at his initiative with Foreign Minister Genscher and presented Israel's position.

Tzipori Comments

TA191635 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Interview with Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori by military correspondent Sha'ul Stav--recorded, time not given]

[Text] [Question] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori, the Saudi Arabians are prepared to pay the Germans with oil, a great deal of oil, for the Leopard tanks. With the Saudi Arabians paying such a high price, do we, does Israel, have any chance at all of preventing the deal from being implemented?

[Answer] The problem, or the situation, between us and Germany is not so simple and this is not just a question of an economic deal between Germany and Saudi Arabia with a German interest involved. The problem is that Germany has a very large moral debt to Israel; and, in fact, this deal of arms supplies to a country that only a very few days ago declared a jihad against Israel has a deep moral significance with which every German will have to cope and understand.

Has the German nation's massacre of the Jews already been forgotten? And are they, because of oil or money, prepared to support a country that has declared jihad on Israel, inferring the destruction or elimination of the State of Israel?

[Question] Mr Tzipori, from another viewpoint, perhaps, if the Germans really sell sophisticated weapons to Saudi Arabia, and in large quantities, should Israel then increase its attempts to prevent the U.S. deal with the Saudis?

[Answer] With regard to the Americans, we must do the best we can. But the argument between us and the Germans is deeper, with a very significant moral dimension.

TERRITORY SETTLERS ORGANIZE AGAINST SINAI PULLOUT

TA200920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] The settlers across the green line have set up a joint committee to halt the withdrawal from Sinai. Taking part in it are representatives of the regional councils in Judaea and Samaria, the Golan Heights Settlers' Committee, and settlers from the Yamit district and the Jordan Rift Valley. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh says that members of several parties, including the Labor Party, are involved in this organizing. The committee has begun information activities, but its members believe that this is not enough.

POLL COMPARES ALIGNMENT, LIKUD COMPETENCE

TA191153 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] The majority of the Israeli public does not want the Likud government to continue in office, but at the same time does not believe that an Alignment-led government would have done any better. This results from an analysis of the country-wide Pori public opinion poll commissioned by HA'ARETZ.

The breakdown of the responses to the question of "Do you think a government headed by the Alignment would have been more successful in combating the problems with which the current government is faced" is: 45.7 replied in the negative compared with 33.8 percent who replied in the affirmative.

The conductor of the poll, Pori Institute Director Refa'el Gil, noted that this marks a drop in the public's confidence in the Alignment's capability in comparison with the January 1981 poll. Then 39.7 percent replied in the negative versus 34.9 percent who replied in the affirmative.

An additional 5.1 percent said that an Alignment government "might" face the country's present difficulties more successfully than the Likud government. But they added that this depends on the nature of those problems as well as on the person who leads the Alignment's government.

Some 15.4 percent said that they "do not know" whether an Alignment government would have done better than the Likud government.

The poll constitutes a representative cross-section, comprising 1,200 men and women interviewed individually in their homes throughout the country.

FRONTLINE LEADERS MEETING CONDEMNS SOUTH AFRICA

LD181036 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Feb 81 CA

[Text] Frontline heads of state, including Nigeria, today unreservedly condemned South Africa's recent attacks [as heard] on Mozambique and its continued aggression against independent southern African countries. President Kaunda, Dr Quett Masire of Botswana, Field Marshal Samora Machel of Mozambique, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe and representatives from Angola and Nigeria said this in a joint sommunique issued at the end of a 5-hour summit held at the state lodge near Lusaka. The communique indicated that the frontliners have also expressed deep concern at racist South Africa's destabilization policy in the region, particularly the continued training of dissidents from Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The frontliners, who held the talks in a friendly and cordial atmosphere, reviewed the southern African situation and reiterated the need to close ranks in the face of the challenge posed by South African aggression.

On the recent Geneva conference on Namibia, the communique said the four leaders and representatives from Angola and Nigeria cautioned the Pretoria regime to resolve the problem. The communique added that the problem of Namibia should be resolved in South Africa itself, instead of trying to divert world opinion by unprovoked aggression against frontline states. [sentence as heard]. The meeting also deplored the failure of the recent Geneva conference and attributed the deadlock to racist South Africa's continued intransigence.

Meanwhile the three heads of state, President Machel, Mwalimu Nyerere and Dr Masire, left for their homes this afternoon immediately after the talks. The Angolan leader of the delegation, member of the ruling MPLA party Central Committee Mr Pasquo (Lubwalo), who represented Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos, also left for home soon after the talks. They were all seen off at the airport by President Kaunda, members of the Central Committee, ministers and other high-ranking party and government officials.

ETHIOPIA

ACCORD REACHED IN BORDER TALKS WITH SUDAN

LD182102 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 18 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The Ethiopian-Sudanese joint border commission today ended its 4-day meeting after agreeing on the priority of issues preliminary to redelimiting the common borders of the two neighboring countries. The Ethiopian-Sudanese joint border commission, which had been meeting in the assembly hall of the Ministry of Interior, agreed to form a joint technical subcommittee, answerable to the commission, charged with the task of examining and amending the joint project designed to redelimit the borders and other related additional points and documents.

Comrade Hailu Wolde Amanuel, head of the Foreign Ministry Department for Europe, signed the agr ent on behalf of the Provisional Military Government of socialist Ethiopia, while H. Excellency Brig Gen Mirghani Sulayman Khalil, Sudanese ambassador to Socialist Ethiopia, signed on behalf of the Sudanese Democratic Republic.

It was learned that the commission found solutions to a number of issues of great importance to the creation of favorable conditions for the redelimitation of the common borders of the two brotherly countries.

During its meeting, the commission reviewed its earlier reports and duly examined the report presented in 1973 on redelimitation of the borders and the 1974 brief report on the joint project. The two sides exchanged views on the special and technical committees they had already formed. They also discussed the progress of the periodical consultations between the administrators and commissioners of the border regions of the two countries. It was confirmed that the meeting was held in an atmosphere of brotherly understanding and a genuine spirit of cooperation.

The leaders of the two delegations expressed their conviction that the outcome of the meeting would greatly contribute toward the mutual interests of the two countries, and that it would further strengthen the existing close relations between the two neighboring countries.

The delegation of the Democratic Republic of Sudan which had been attending the Ethiopian-Sudanese joint commissions meeting will return to Khartoum tomorrow.

SOMALIA

MOGADISHU DENOUNCES ETHIOPIAN-PDRY COMMUNIQUE

LD182024 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 18 Feb 81 EA

[Commentary by ('Abd ar-Rahman Shidow Abdi)]

[Text] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the party leader of the PDRY, returned home yesterday after concluding a 5-day visit to Abyssinia by official invitation extended to him by Mengistu Haile Mariam. A so-called communique was released after the conclusion of the official visit in which they condemned what they called the presence of foreign forces in the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The so-called communique also mentioned the existence of foreign military bases in Somalia, Oman and other places within the Horn of Africa which they pointed out as being dangerous to the peace and stability of the region.

This is not the first time such a communique has been associated with the Abyssinians in which concocted and blantant lies are heaped and directed upon the clear policy and administration of the Somalia Democratic Republic [SDR] while at the same time concealing the real facts in its own country.

The SDR has on several occasions in the past declared there are no foreign troops in its territory whatsoever nor has it entered into such an agreement with other countries.

The world, however, knows in whose territory foreign bases have been established. The SDR, adhering to the charters of the OAU and UN, is openly opposed to the idea of establishing foreign military bases in its territory or that of any other member states, the aims and objectives of which are to serve foreign powers.

We may ask ourselves, who has provided foreign military bases? The answer is simple. It is Abyssinia and Aden who have given the Russians Aden, Socotra, Assab, Massawa, Dahlak and other places whose sole purpose is to endanger the peace and stability of this region of the Horn of Africa, the Gulf, the Arab world bordering the Red Sea and the world at large. Also in their countries there are numerous forces aimed at destabilizing the Arab world. Among the other objectives behind the presence of these numerous foreign troops is the obliteration of the existence and nationhood of the SDR andthe liberation forces of WSLF, Abo, Eritrea and others.

The SDR views the so-called communique as nothing but a grand plan by a superpower whose expansionist policy cannot be hidden any more and as being aimed at obliterating the Arab world. This can be clearly seen from the renaming of the Arab Gulf to Persian Gulf [last two words in English]. The SDR is an independent nation, is free to pursue its own policy and will not consult anyone on relations and agreements it may want to enter into in the world at large, as long as such an agreement is not harmful to the independence and sovereignty of the SDR and does not infringe upon international charters.

UGANDA

OBOTE REPORTEDLY DETAINS FORMER DEPUTY MINISTER

LD181252 Nairobi Domestic Servicein English 1000 GMT 18 Feb 81 EA

[Text] Kampala--Reports from Uganda said President Milton Obote has detained a third official of an opposition party, the Uganda Patriotic Movement after allegations that its leader, Yoweri Museveni, was behind a series of attacks on government installations recently. The official, Reverend Christopher Okoth, former deputy internal affairs minister, was arrested after the publication of an article last weekend in the PEOPLE newspaper, the official organ of the ruling Uganda People's Congress, saying Museveni was the mastermind of the attacks on Kampala prison and several police stations in the country. The whereabouts of Mr Museveni are unknown, and it is believed he is hiding.

MINISTER DENIES PRECARIOUS SECURITY SITUATION

LD181900 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The vice-president, who is also minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has said recent alarming reports about security in Uganda were nothing but a pack of lies. The vice-president, who was speaking to the Norwegian ambassador to Uganda, resident in Nairobi, invited the envoy to see for himself how peaceful the country is contrary to what appears in the international press. Mr Muwanga also informed the ambassador that Uganda's relations with all her neighbors are good.

The vice-president further informed the ambassador that the UPC [Uganda Peoples Congress] Government is preoccupied with premeditated plans of rehabilitating the country. He said, under the able leadership of the president, Dr Apollo Milton Obote, the government is bent on the rule of law. He said all the efforts of the government are geared to fostering peace and stability in Uganda. The vice-president also briefed the ambassador in detail about the recent elections which brought UPC to power. The military commission, the electoral commission and the commonwealth observer team, he said, were all satisfied that the elections were free and fair.

CAMEROON

COMMENTATOR REACTS TO ANNOUNCED CUTS IN U.S. AID

AB200843 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Commentary by Joseph Marcel Ndi]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has kept the promise made by presidential candidate Reagan concerning the military expenditures of the United States. As a matter of fact, in presenting the new draft budget, President Reagan announced a cut in aid to foreign countries and an increase in the U.S. defense budget. With this, we are a long way from the promises of candidate Reagan, who said that relations with the Third World countries are a major issue in any peace program. We are also a long way from the recommendations of the United Nations, the World Bank, etc, who continue to talk to the deaf when pointing out the dramatic problems of our times, problems that will present a challenge for the next quarter of a century.

For example, 15 million children under 5 die of mulnutrition every year in the Third World countries, while the number of people living in a state of absolute poverty on our planet runs to 700 million. On the other hand, the world spends $350 billion, that is 840,000 billion cfa francs, every year on the arms race, and Reagan's move will only step up the race.

But in a way, one can understand the American president. Carter left behind him a country insulted by Iranians, overtaken militarily by the Soviet Union, economically weak--in brief, a country that had lost confidence in itself. It is thus necessary to restore the prestige of America, show that it is still a powerful country and that it has not given up its desire for peace and freedom. Since his inauguration, Reagan has been working hard to this end.

In addition to his frequent verbal attacks on the Soviet Union, he has reduced the privileged status of the Soviet ambassador to Washington, [words indistinct] and he has announced the deployment [as heard] of the neutron bomb, which is already an important event. Reagan has obviously engaged himself on a path where it will be difficult to back down without giving the impression of losing face. Let us wait and see if his method will be echoed at the Krelin.

Leonid Brezhnev will certainly answer back in a few days from the tribune of the CPSU congress. In the meantime, we are doomed to follow this Moscow-Washington (?quarrel) while solutions to the thorny problems of our development are put off indefinitely.

ZAIRE

CORRECTION TO CABINET, POLITICAL BUREAU MEMBERS

Kinshasa AZAP in French at 1230 GMT on 19 February carried a report on the decrees reorganizing the Executive Council and the Political Bureau, published in the 19 February Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT starting on page S 1, under the headline "Mobutu Decrees on New Cabinet, Political Bureau," that makes possible the following corrections:

Page S 3, the middle of the page, the list of political commissioners should read as follows:

Dr Bolongwe Toleki; Efambe Eyolanga; Gambembo Fumu Wa Utadi; Kalala Kizito; Kangafu Vingi Gudumbangana; Kifumbi Zuka; Kisombe Kiaku Muisi; Kitemoko Mambu Manza; Konde Vila Kikanda; Kupa Mandungala; Kyembwe Walumona; Mabi Mulumba; Malumba Mbangulaka; Mandungu Bula Nyati; Dr Mbayahe Musenge; Mbenza Thubi; Mbweshi Kuongo; Mukamba Kadiata Nzemba; Nguz Nlandu Kavidi; Nyembo Shabani; Nzandajabuana Kalemba; Sakombi Inongo; Sampassa Kaweta Milombe; Tshibola Mutshiaudi; Zamundu Agenongha Kasongo;

Page S 3, the bottom of the page should read as follows:

The following secretaries of state are appointed for the following departments:

Foreign affairs and international cooperation	
Foreign affairs	Idzumbuir Bolumbu Abncu
International cooperation	Lengema Dulia Yubasa Makanga
Territorial administration	Bongo Lega
National defense and veterans affairs	
National defense	Vice Admiral Lomponde Wa Bolende
Veterans affairs	Maj Gen Dikuta Ebilansang
Justice	Bokuma Etike
Information	Dongo Badjanga
Agriculture and rural development	
Agriculture	Mwema Ngoy Toka
Rural Development	Mukala Wa Mukala
Finance and budget	
Finance	Djamboleka Loma
Budget	Malu Biakalua Mfiku
State investment holdings	Mbombo Engondo
National economy and industry	Gema Diloya
Foreign trade	Pembele-zi-Vita
Mines	Elongo Pene Ongala
Energy	Seka Buhoro
Public works and territorial development	Kibangula Kia Wakonga
Environment, nature conservation and tourism	Djogo Basome
Transport and communications	Bomandeke Bonyeka
Land affairs	Ngoto Ngalingi
Higher education and scientific research	Akwesi Ngobasu
Primary and secondary education	Mujynya Nimisi
Civil service	Samba Kaputo
Public health	Dr Falaki Moloma
Arts and culture	Masegabio Nzanzu
Social affairs	Kashemwa Laini Nyota

Labor and social security	Kisolekela Wamba
Posts, telegraphs and telecommunications	Mwamba Mukukwila
Sports and leisure	Dula Mangembese
Commissariat general for planning	Bieme Ngalisame Mokelo

NATIONAL TRADE UNION SECRETARY GENERAL SUSPENDED

AB191420 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Although the recent restructuring of the Cabinet and the Political Bureau still holds the spotlight on the current news, we have just received news from our national trade union that its secretary general has been suspended. The suspension followed an extraordinary meeting.

This house-cleaning operation within our trade union surprises no one. It was more or less expected, because some time ago the Zairian press reported the existence of a subversion network supported by some diplomats from certain Eastern countries. According to revelation on this matter, the National Union of Workers of Zaire [UNTZA] was involved in the network. In spite of the denial made a few days later in the press, the atmosphere was far from serene within the national trade union. The suspension of the secretary general of the union is clear proof of the existence of the malaise within the UNTZA. It also demonstrates the determination of trade unionists to dislodge the wolf from among the sheep in order to put their flock in order.

But what is Citizen (Mukato) accused of? The UNTZA press release does not mention it. Mention is made however, of serious offenses. It is announced that the union's new boss, Citizen (Luzobo), will hold a press conference on Saturday morning. He is expected to use the opportunity to disclose the offenses of Citizen (Mukato).

LIBERIA

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON CHAD, LIBYA

AB200750 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Two new Liberian ambassadors have been commissioned and accredited to Great Britain and the Republic of Haiti. Those qualified are Liberia's ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain, Dr (Harry Gonomba), and Lt Col Francis (Boye) as ambassador to the Republic of Haiti.

Foreign Minister G. Bacchus Matthews performed the ceremony at the Foreign Ministry in Monrovia yesterday on behalf of head of state Doe. Touching on other issues during the ceremony, Mr Matthews said that in the absence of evidence to confirm Libyan intervention in Chad, the Liberian Government will not be disposed to any concept of other nations that would wish to engage in anti-Libyan activity. The foreign minister expressed the hope that the African countries concerned with bringing peace to Chad will do their best to ensure against any action that would tend to contribute to the destabilization of Chad. Foreign Minister Matthews also said that it was in the best interest of the Liberian Government at this time of national reconstruction to avoid any decision or discussion of ideological consideration.

Mr Matthews used the occasion to thank the Government of Korea for the assistance given to the Liberian people since the beginning of this year. The foreign minister is meanwhile due to leave the country today for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to attend the 36th session of the OAU Council of Ministers conference. Mr Matthews will be away for about a week.

JUSTICE MINISTER SUMMONED BY TRIBUNAL FOR CONTEMPT

AB190947 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Justice Minister Chea Cheapoo and four Liberian journalists have been cited to appear before the[word indistinct] of the People's Supreme Tribunal to answer a charge of contempt of court.

In a writ issued in Monrovia yesterday by (Stephen Bonny), clerk of the People's Supreme Tribunal, to Brig Gen (J.H. Striker), master of the tribunal, Mr (Striker) was mandated to summon Minister Cheapoo for what the clerk described as a malicious and defamatory statement the justice minister made at a recent press conference held in Monrovia. He quoted Justice Minister Cheapoo as saying at the press conference that the failure of the supreme tribunal to reconvene since last October in keeping with statutory law constituted a grave denial of justice, adding that he also expressed concern about the disfunction of the court.

Reporter Machael (Gin), Editor-in-Chief (Rufus Baffour) of the DAILY OBSERVER, staff writer (Same Jessey) and the editor-in-chief of the NEW LIBERIAN, Same Kamara, have also been charged by the People's Supreme Tribunal with what was described as conniving, conspiring and collaborating with Minister Cheapoo by publishing and circulating the contemptuous statement against the tribunal.

He [the clerk of the tribunal] said the nonconvening of the tribunal since it was reconstituted by the PRC [People's Redemption Council] was due to the lack of room space, and he said the continued use and occupation of the chambers of the People's Supreme Tribunal by the special military tribunal was upon the advice and inducement of Minister Cheapoo, who was also ordained a counselor-at-law at the People's Supreme Tribunal bar.

Justice Minister's Statement

AB200821 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Justice Minister Chea Cheapoo declared in Monrovia today that he would not deviate from his recent statement at a news conference in Monrovia that failure of the supreme tribunal to reconvene since last October in keeping with statutory law is a grave denial of justice.

The justice minister was speaking at a called news conference at his office today following yesterday's report that he and four journalists were to appear on a charge of contempt of court during the March term of the People's Supreme Tribunal.

He said among other things that he would contest the validity of the charges. Minister Cheapoo said the journalists who had been directed to him by the People's Supreme Tribunal for clarification on their inactivity were performing their rightful jobs and his statement was in the best interest of the Liberian people for whom the People's Supreme Tribunal was created by the PRC [People's Redemption Council].

[Begin recording] The minister of justice stands firm by his statement that the failure of the People's Supreme Tribunal to convene as provided by law and failing thereby to grant relief and justice to the masses of the Liberian people and foreigners living within our borders constitutes a grave denial of justice. I stand by that statement. In the interest of the country and the administration of justice within the republic, the government of the PRC reconstituted the courts and provided judges thereof. Regrettably, this duty of administering justice has not been performed especially because of the failure of the People's Supreme Tribunal to discharge and execute its functions and duties, that is, to convene [word indistinct] in keeping with the statutes. It is true the former supreme tribunal and chamber are presently occupied by the special military tribunal. Nevertheless, there is no justifiable reason--I repeat, there is no justifiable reason--for the continued refusal of the People's Supreme Tribunal to accept the invitation to return to the temple of justice where adequate space already exists. [end recording]

NIGER

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON TOGOLESE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

AB191612 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpts] The 5-day official visit of Togolese President Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema to our country ended this morning. He left Niamey this morning for Lome. This is the final communique on his visit:

The two heads of state held several talks which took place in a friendly and brotherly atmosphere marked by mutual understanding, and during which they reviewed bilateral questions as well as African and international problems of the day. They held identical views on all the problems reviewed.

On bilateral issues, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction about the excellent relations of friendship and solidarity existing between the Togolese and Niger peoples and reaffirmed their determination to work toward further strengthening it. They therefore agreed to take the necessary steps to consolidate cooperation between the two countries within the framework of the joint Togolese-Niger commission, which is the preferred instrument of cooperation. They expressed satisfaction about the positive results of the first meeting of this joint commission held in Niamey in February 1980. They reaffirmed their faith in the cooperation agreement linking the two countries, pledged to ensure its smooth functioning and agreed to conclude new agreements, especially in the fields of trade, transport, shipping and social security for migrant workers.

To this end, President Gnassingbe Eyadema decided to open a Togolese diplomatic mission in Niger; President Kountche also agreed to open a diplomatic mission in Togo.

Concerning African problems, the two heads of state deplored the persistent conflict and pockets of tension which are often aggravated by the increasingly coveteous desires and interference of foreign countries.

They agreed that this type of situation dangerously compromises the independence of African states and the realization of African unity and considerably impedes their economic and social development efforts. To this end, the two heads of state stressed the urgent need to protect the whole continent against these machinations and other foreign interference which endanger the vital interests of the hard-working African peoples. The two heads of state reaffirmed their faith in the peaceful settlement of conflicts between states in accordance with the principles of the UN and OAU Charters and with respect for the fundamental African values of dialogue and consultation.

Looking at the Chadian problem, the two heads of state noted the similarity of their views. Presidents Gnassingbe Eyadema and Seyni Kountche reaffirmed their attachment to the conclusions of the OAU meeting held in Lome on 14 January 1981. The two heads of state consider the Lagos accord of August 1979 as the essential basis for any real and lasting peace in a sovereign and independent Chad. President Seyni Kountche insisted on expressing his sincere gratitude to President Gnassingbe Eyadema, the great and devoted militant for the cause of unity and progress of peoples and for the untiring efforts he has personally made to bring peace and stability to Chad.

Concerning Western Sahara, the two heads of state reiterated the need to begin negotiations between the parties concernined in order to put an end to the conflict as soon as possible. The two heads of state reaffirmed their faith in the objective of a complete and final decolonization of the African Continent, and they called on the Western powers to use their influence to put pressure on the racist authorities in Pretoria in order to hasten the installation of a government which reflects the legitimate aspirations of the people of Namibia. To this end, they renew their unreserved support for the nationalists of southern Africa in their liberation war against colonialism and apartheid.

On inter-African economic cooperation, the two heads of state expressed their satisfaction at belonging to subregional and regional organizations, especially the Entente Council and the ECOMAS, and reaffirmed their confidence in and hope for their activities.

They also expressed the hope that OAU member states do everything in their power to implement the Lagos economic summit conference's plan of action.

Presidents Gnassingbe Eyadema and Seyni Kountche reaffirmed their unflinching faith in the Nonaligned Movement and condemned foreign intervention in other states' internal affairs.

The founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally [RPT] and president of the Republic of Togo invited the chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state to pay an official visit to Togo. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and a date will be fixed later.

Issued in Niamey on 19 February, 1981.

[Signed] For Niger, His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state
For Togo, His Excellency Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the RPT and president of the Republic of Togo

NIGERIA

REPORTAGE ON LORD CARRINGTON'S LAGOS VISIT

Meeting With Audu

AB181845 Paris AFP in French 1742 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Lagos, 18 Feb (AFP)--Lord Carrington, the British secretary of the Foreign Office, who arrived in Lagos on Wednesday morning, was briefed on the situation in Chad and in a meeting with his Nigerian counterpart, Professor Ishaya Audu, asked about Nigeria's position on the Libyan presence in that country, a British spokesman announced.

The two ministers, who had already met in London last July, also touched on the situation in Namibia, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Angola as well as the Afghan problem.

Touching on the Namibian problem, the minister, the spokesman said, regretted the failure of the recent Geneva conference and explained that the question of UNITA--a rebel movement supported by Pretoria--will become easier to solve after the settlement of the Namibian problem.

During his first day in Nigeria, the minister also met with Alhaji A. Oniyangi, the Nigerian defense minister. He was accompanied by Sir Austen Pearce, the director general of the British aerospace company. They discussed possible ventures between Nigeria and Great Britain in the fields of defense industry and technical cooperation in the maintenance of the Nigerian Navy. Lord Carrington also had discussions with Adamu Ciroma, the Nigerian minister of industries.

He will meet President Shehu Shagari on Thursday and will leave Lagos on Friday morning for Abidjan, where he will spend a day.

Remarks on Southern Africa

AB191625 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The visiting British foreign secretary, Lord Carrington, said his country still believes in a peaceful negotiated settlement of the crisis in Namibia and apartheid South Africa. He said that although Britain was committed to the realization of independence for Namibia and freedom for the blacks in South Africa, he did not think that the goals could be achieved by a policy of isolation. Lord Carrington said this in answer to a question when he appeared today before a joint meeting of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The British foreign secretary said that no British firm was assisting apartheid South Africa to develop its nuclear capability.

He denied an allegation that Nigerians living in Britain were being maltreated and pointed out that only about 100 Nigerian nationals have been convicted of criminal offenses today. He told the meeting that the objective of his visit was to expand the existing cordial relations between Nigeria and his country.

AFP Report

AB191825 Paris AFP in French 1656 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Lagos, 19 Feb (AFP)--Lord Carrington, the British foreign secretary, explained in Lagos on Thursday--the second and last day of his official visit to Nigeria--that the best means to a peaceful settlement of the Namibian problem is by negotiation and not force. We do not think, the British foreign secretary declared during a press conference, that imposing sanctions is an efficient way of solving the problem or of making South Africa change its mind. Continuing, Lord Carrington said, we regret the failure of the Geneva conference, which we believe is due to the attitude of the South Africans, but if sanctions were imposed, it would be to the detriment of South Africa's neighbors.

On the other hand, Lord Carrington, in answer to a question, defended the facilities accorded to the United States in Somalia and Egypt, asserting that this was due to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In this case, I do not think that the United States should be condemned. It is rather the Soviet Union which should be. Whenever the Russians withdraw their troops from Afghanistan, the United States will also leave Africa and Egypt, he said.

The British minister also raised the question of Anglo-Nigerian relations, which he said are excellent. Questioned on the compensation due to the British Government following the nationalization of British Petroleum in July 1979 in Nigeria, the minister responded that he hoped an agreement will soon be signed on that.

In response to criticism of the significant deficit in Nigeria's trade balance with Great Britain, Lord Carrington explained that Great Britain cannot buy the agricultural products that Nigeria no longer produces. However, he explained during a lunch given by the Anglo-Nigerian Chamber of Commerce that the possibilities of an especially fruitful and promising collaboration are evident. On Thursday, Lord Carrington had discussions with President Shehu Shagari. He leaves Lagos on Friday morning for Abidjan where he will spend the day.

Meeting With Vice President

AB192240 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpt] The vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, has called on British businessmen to study the guidelines in the Nigerian fourth national development plan with the view to determining in which areas they could effectively participate. Dr Ekwueme made the call today in Lagos during talks he held with some of them and the British foreign secretary, Lord Carrington at the State House. The vice president expressed delight that political differences between Nigeria and Britain had been sorted out and remarked that there was a lot more British entrepreneurs could do to further improve the economic and political relationships between the two countries. He referred in particular to Nigeria's current development program under which 82 billion naira was earmarked for investment, adding that the bulk of this amount was open for projects coming from out of the country.

Dr. Ekwueme also drew the attention of Lord Carrington and his team to food production and processing as the main area of emphasis in the development program. The vice president pointed out that in the last 2 months, the Federal Government had effected some amendment in the indigenization law to permit some control of certain businesses which were formerly exclusively reserved for Nigerians.

Replying, Lord Carrington noted that both the British Government and the business community have been impressed by the Federal Government's invitation to participate in investment opportunities in Nigeria.

SENEGAL

DIOUF, GHANA'S LIMANN HOLD PRIVATE TALKS

AB201138 Paris AFP in French 1051 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Dakar, 20 Feb (AFP)--Ghanaian President Hilla Limann, who is on a 2-day official visit to Senegal, on Thursday held private talks with Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf. The talks were followed by a working session extended to members of the two delegations. The discussions touched on Ghana-Senegal bilateral cooperation and on current issues in Africa and the world, it has been officially announced.

On Friday, Mr Limann is scheduled to meet the diplomatic corps in Dakar and visit Soumbedioune artisans village on the coast at Dakar. The Ghanaian head of state will then be given an official luncheon. In the afternoon he will meet the Ghanaian community in Dakar and later attend a gala night.

ANGOLA

SECURITY, BORDER ISSUES DISCUSSED WITH ZAIRE

LD171148 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 17 Feb 81 EA

[Text] (Kena Lilo), the Zairian state commissioner for security, arrived in Luanda yesterday at the invitation of our minister for state security, Comrade Jundi Paiama, a candidate member of the MPLA Labor Party.

This visit, the Zairian state commissioner for state security explained, is part of a timetable established between the authorities of the two countries after a year of regular consultations for the discussion of common issues in the field of security.

Concerning security along our common border, the Zairian official said that his country has been doing its best to discourage the former members of the extinct Angolan National Liberation Front and other lackeys of imperialism who want to spread disturbances on Angolan territory. The Zairian state security commissioner also referred to the unsuccessful Geneva international conference on Namibia and reaffirmed his government's support for SWAPO, the legitimate representative of the oppressed Namibian people.

At the end of the fourth meeting of the Angolan-Zairian joint commission held from 9 through 14 February in Luanda, the participants approved a report praising the work in progress to strengthen cooperation between the two countries, particularly concerning the maintainance and conservation of transport and communications along the Zaire River.

During the meeting the two sides praised the implementation of the resolutions taken at the third meeting of the joint commission held in Kinshasa in July last year in the fields of dredging, placing boundary signposts and hydrographic studies of the Zaire River. With a view to strengthening cooperation between the two countries for better security of navigation of the Zaire River's navigable section, the two sides suggested that they should maintain the stands taken at previous meetings and that they should also improve boundary signposts.

Concerning the training of Angolan technicians in the field of hydrography and drilling, the Angolan delegation expressed Angola's willingness to send cadres to the Republic of Zaire to be trained there in the field.

Joao dos Santos Gomes, coordinator of the Department of Maritime Security of the National Directorate of the Mercantile Marine and Ports, chaired the meeting on the Angolan side and (Moukassa Mayala Pondia), president-delegate general of the Administration of Maritime Communications, led the Zairian delegation.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL SPEAKS ON REACTION TO SOUTH AFRICAN RAID

LD142358 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0725 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Speech by President Samora Machel of Mozambique at mass rally in Maputo in connection with 30 January raid into Mozambique by South Africa--live]

[Excerpts] The racist regime of South Africa is now in direct confrontation with us. This direct confrontation did not start on 30 January. For a long period now, South Africa has been recruiting, training, arming and, through the common border, infiltrating agents into Mozambique. These agents receive direct orders from the South African secret services.

The Voice of Kizumba [referent to Voice of Free Africa] is now broadcasting from one of the South African broadcasting stations. Traitors and counterrevolutionary agents are trained in South African military training camps such as the ones in Durban and (Palabora). Aircraft and helicopters violating our airspace, supporting groups of infiltrated bandits and carrying out air reconnaisance come from South African airports. Through the border with our country the racist regime infiltrates puppet groups.

Later in January, in an operation mounted by the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM], we killed about 70 elements and captured 28 rifles, 2 machineguns, 6 bazookas and a large amount of ammunition. These elements had just entered our national territory at Pafuri. These activities by the minority regime are an integral part of the whole history of Boer domination in South Africa.

The minority and racist regime of South Africa has a warlike policy. It is developing a war material industry; it acquires large quantities of sophisticated and strategic weaponry, openly organizes a nuclear arsenal, directly supports bandits whom it supplies by air, violates our borders by air, land and sea, infiltrates agents, spies and saboteurs, some of them by parachute, produces forged money, prints and scatters pamphlets by air, rivers and the sea, and organizes military bases near our border, where it trains and shelters armed bandits, mercenaries and racist soldiers. It is from there that military aggression against our country starts.

What happened on 30 January? On 30 January at about 0100 a South African commando unit, which included Rhodesian mercenaries, attacked three homes of militants of the ANC of South Africa and members of the South African trade unions. This commando unit entered our country at about 2300, violating our border in the area of Pangane, 11 kilometers to the south of Ressano Garcia. It followed a footpath and took the Ressano Garcia-Maputo tarmac road. The racist commandos had their hands and faces painted black and used trucks resembling our military trucks. On their way they dropped iron spikes to puncture the tires of any vehicles which might pursue them.

On arrival at Matola, the enemy commandos blocked the road at two points: first, at the road leading to radio Mozambique and the Matola bridge, the other at the crossroads to (Fumento) ward. That is how they killed a Portuguese citizen, a cooperative worker with the Mozambique electricity company who was returning from his inspection work on electricity lines, a peaceful cooperative worker who worked with us in the reconstruction of Mozambique.

In the first house, the racist commandos used the trick of posing as elements of the FPLM who were coming to talk to ANC elements, and in Portuguese. Immediately the ANC elements came out, they ordered them to put their hands up and started to shoot. The guards killed various elements of the South African racist forces. Five elements were shot there, four of whom died and one of whom was seriously injured and is still in the hospital. One of the dead commandos was abandoned at the place. We captured five weapons, two radio transmitters, grenades and various ammunition.

In the second house, which in fact belonged to South African trade union members, the minority regime commandos fired cannons, howitzers and grenades. They destroyed the house and killed the occupants. On leaving, they set up grenades and boobytraps at the entrances of the house.

In the third house, the commandos cut telephone wires, blocked the doors of the neighboring houses and fired howitzers and grenades, killing all the occupants. Then they took books and magazines which they considered to be weapons of the ANC.

In the three houses, the enemy commandos killed 12 [figures as heard] ANC militants. The aggression lasted about 1 hour. Thereafter, the commandos left via Machava and along the railroad line. They left Mozambique through Pangane, near Ressano Garcia where they had entered. They left Mozambique territory at 0500. In their action, they were supported by the air force which had escorted them as far as Muvene and which supported them again when leaving.

We studied the raid in depth. We studied the activities of each individual, the behavior of everyone in charge what he did and how he acted. We observed that the violation of the border was detected at about 2330 by a reconnaissance group of the border troops. But the communication of the violation only reached the chief of general staff at 0900 the next day. Is it by chance that the news only reached the chief of general staff at 0900 when the enemy left the country at 0500? A guard unit near one of the occupied houses did not react to the enemy attack. The murderous commandos were able to leave our national territory unpunished.

This is sad and painful.

But we have to answer the question why there was passivity in reaction to the enemy attack. Our people say: When a sorcerer enters a house it is because someone opened a window or the door opened for him. [applause] Who opened the door to South Africans? It was those whom the people trusted and have now betrayed. It was some officers of the FPLM who opened doors and windows to let in the sorcerer.

These individuals I have just presented to you are the sorcerers who bring the enemy to Mozambique. They are the eyes and ears of the Pretoria racists in our midst. They are the ones behind the destruction of vehicles. They are the ones who paralyze the weapons which must fight the enemy. Being vigilant is a way of protecting our armed forces by denouncing the suspicious behavior of soldiers and officers and by denouncing stealing, drunkenness, corruption, and the diverting of state property. Vigilance means stopping crimes against our people. Traitors are not foreigners. Traitors are sons, brothers, husbands, relatives and friends of each one of us.

The traitors we have just paraded are some of the agents bought, corrupted and infiltrated into our country by South Africa. They are some of the agents recruited by South Africa. This is the secret behind the aggression. This is the condition without which open aggression is not possible. They say that they are attacking us because of our support for the ANC. They want to divide and weaken us. They want us to stop our support to the ANC. We and the ANC have always been in solidarity. It is unthinkable that our people and the South African people should cease our solidarity toward each other.

The ANC has representation in Britain, France, Italy, the United States, the Nordic countries, throughout Africa and all the socialist countries. Their militants have residences in the above countries. It was in residences such as these that destruction and massacre were carried out in the early morning of January--residences described by the South African regime as military bases of the ANC. Now we are waiting for them to attack France, Britain, New York, the whole world. Every country and all capitals because they have become residential bases of apartheid refugees.

It is South Africa that must choose whether we have to live in peace or make war. It is for South Africa to answer. We are not scared of war. [applause] The whole Mozambique population is a product of war. [applause] This liberty of ours, this independence and socialist fatherland are the products of war.

It is for South Africa to choose whether to live in peace or in war. But we are not prepared for a cold war. We prefer an open war. [applause] We do not want to waste time massing troops on the borders and creating tension. This is a cold war and we don't want it. We want South Africa to have an open war with us. [applause]

How does war start? War starts with acts of this nature. World War I and World War II started with aggression and occupations. But the invader was always defeated.

When a snake, no matter how poisonous and threatening, leaves its hole it becomes vulnerable. Even a small child can kill it with a stick. There is no need for a weapon. Let the South Africans come. But they must be sure that the war will end in Pretoria. [applause followed by slogans] You may be assured that the war will end in Pretoria because the majority will take over power in Pretoria.

The minority regime of Pretoria is scared of our victory over underdevelopment. It is scared that the success of the decade against underdevelopment may prove the superiority of the socialist system. The South African regime is scared that the consolidation of our development may speed the dynamics of the economic liberation of South African countries. It is scared that the consolidation will lead to total liberation of the peoples in the region. To carry out the national plan is to defeat the forces of colonalism, racism, apartheid, exploitation and imperialism. When the minority regime of South Africa attacks the People's Republic of Mozambique, it is attacking the political and organizational offensive mounted one year ago.

The offensive is the purge of our ranks, the detection of infiltrators, and progressive neutralization of South Africa's agents in our midst. The offensive is the freeing of mentalities, a movement of cultural liberation, and it is the creation of conditions to reduce our economic dependence on imperialism and South Africa.

As I have said, history has proved that the aggressor is always defeated. Liberation is an irreversible force. Peoples want liberty, peace and progress. The South African people will triumph from oppression and humiliation. The minority racist, aggressive and colonialist regime will be defeated by the South African people. Apartheid will disappear. The Mozambique fatherland, the fatherland of our ancestors who for centuries resisted colonialism, the fatherland of heroes who waged the war of liberation, the fatherland of those who made sacrifices for the liberty of others, the fatherland of our sons and grandchildren and Comrade Mondlane will be preserved and defended by every Mozambican. [Applause]

Because of the justness of our cause and international solidarity we are sure of victory. We shall win over apartheid and the South African people will be installed in Pretoria and will do away with discrimination. That is why we say with all force that the struggle continues. [slogans]

SOUTH AFRICA

REPORT OF SOVIET WARSHIPS NEAR MOZAMBIQUE CITED

LD200008 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The Portuguese News Agency says warships of the Soviet Indian Ocean fleet have taken up position off Mozambique's two major ports in what it called a show of solidarity with the Marxist regime 3 weeks after the South African security forces attacked an African National Congress base in Maputo. The agency did not say what or how many Soviet ships were in place or when they had entered Mozambique waters. The vessels are lying at the ports of Maputo and Beira.

ACCOUNT OF U.S. ENVOY'S REMARKS TO UN BODY DEFENDED

LD200012 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The United States International Communications Agency says that the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] misrepresented remarks made by the alternate American delegate to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Mr Richard Schifter. The agency says Mr Schifter had been misrepresented when the SABC reported that, and we quote, the Reagan administration would back South Africa in its fight against black nationalists who want to overthrow the white minority government in the country. The agency says Mr Schifter had said that the United States held apartheid in abhorrence, yet--as in other matters--it also held violence and terrorism in abhorrence. He had then said that evolutionary change was necessary and in discussing how this could be encouraged in South Africa he remarked, and we quote, strident rhetoric and calls for radical actions were not useful. If there was no dialogue the international community would not be heard within South Africa and confrontational rhetoric might encourage those prone to violence, or further alienate those in South Africa who hold steadfastly to the status quo. Mr Schifter said neither of these groups would enjoy the support of the United States.

Commenting on the American objections this evening, a spokesman for the SABC said that the SABC news item had been based on an international news agency report which was accepted in good faith.

JOHANNESBURG DEPLORES RISING MILITARY TENSION

LD181836 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Black southern African leaders have held a 1-day summit in Lusaka to discuss the security of the subcontinent. They met against the background of growing insecurity in their countries, the result ironically of their own actions. Unless the causes are recognized and countered, there is little doubt that the coming year will see an escalation of military and terrorist activity with political repercussions that will not leave the governments themselves unscathed. Inevitably South Africa will also be drawn in.

The threat to southern Africa is a two-dimensional one. It involves, on the one hand, the danger of the armaments build up in the Soviet Union's puppet states--Angola and Mozambique--developing a momentum that could lead to a conventional war and, on the other, attempts to develop a second terrorist front against South Africa.

In his maiden speech in parliament South Africa's defense minister, General Magnus Malan, has dealth with that (?issue) in calling on neighboring governments to accept pretoria's offer of nonaggression treaties. The alternative, he said, might be armed conflict which they could not but lose.

General Malan described the arms buildup in southern Africa as unprecedented. It includes such sophisticated material as MiG-21 fighter aircraft and to man these the host countries obviously need Soviet proxy forces. Such forces, in the pattern established in Angola and Ethopia and emerging now in Mozambique, are invariably used as a lever for manipulating the host governments to Moscow's advantage. [Words indistinct] concerns the growing network of terrorist bases in Mozambique and Tanzania. Mozambique alone is known to operate three large training camps presided over by some 500 Cubans and an unknown number of East Germans.

Both developments signal a period of rising tensions in southern Africa. Whether these tensions will be defused before they get out control to the incalculable detriment of most of the subcontinent depends to a great extend on the insight displayed by the leaders who have been meeting in Lusaka.